



Series II

Volume 6 (36)

2010

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ARMENIAN

ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ

NUMISMATIC

ՀԱՆԴԵՍ

JOURNAL

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ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

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March 2010

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Thirty-Five Years of Service

Coin collecting is a fascinating and educational hobby. Generally, coin collectors do not have time to worry about other problems and normally live a longer life.

Beginning collectors often stay away from investing money in numismatic literature, preferring instead to spend their hard-earned money on coins themselves. However, an educated and informed collector makes wiser decisions and is armed to better protect himself.

In 1994, the Donabedian collection was sold at auction in London by Spink. Lot 258, in this sale consisted of seven relatively common silver trams of King Levon I (1198-1219), graded VF to XF, with retail value of perhaps \$200. Unbelievably, this lot realized a hammer price of £1,250 (\$1,913.75), several times higher than their actual market value. A knowledgeable collector would not have bid so much for these coins.

Understandably, new collectors are sometimes confused and frustrated, and they do not know how to proceed. This is where numismatic literature, and membership in a numismatic organization can be enormous benefit.

One of the aims of *Armenian Numismatic Journal* is to provide educational information to collectors, helping them to make wiser decisions and protecting them from mistakes.

Since 1975, the *Armenian Numismatic Journal* has provided interesting articles on Armenian coins and paper currency, summaries and reviews of the latest coin auctions, identification of counterfeits, reviews of new books, and abstracts of published literature relating to Armenian numismatics: All the while, the purpose has been to inform, educate, and support the numismatic community.

During the past thirty-five years several extremely important articles have been published which were later reprinted in book form. The topics have included a bibliography, Armenian bank notes, coin grading and valuation, counterfeit detection, overstruck and countermarked coins, Roupenian gold coins, Tigranes II silver coins, coin auctions, etc. Altogether, the printed space in the past thirty-five years of the *Journal* covers 2724 pages and 149 photographic plates.

Armenian Numismatic Journal is the quarterly publication of Armenian Numismatic Society, an educational and non-profit organization. The *Journal* is distributed free of charge to the members. Membership in the Society costs \$50 for the first year and \$45 for subsequent years. The Society has also a series of *Special Publications* which members can purchase at reduced prices. For additional information and application forms, write to Armenian Numismatic Society, Mr. Y. T. Nercessian, Secretary, 8511 Beverly Park Place, Pico Rivera, California 90660-1920, U. S. A. or by e-mail at ArmNumSoc@aol.com.

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* EXCEPT FOR PUBLICATIONS WITH THEIR PRICE MARKED * WHICH ARE ALREADY OFFERED AT A REDUCED PRICE

A NOTE ON ATTRIBUTION

Author: Jack Nurpetlian; Title: "Unpublished Artaxiad Coins from Lebanon."

In *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series II, Vol. 5 (35), pp. 91-96, pls. 1-6.

When this article was received we were in an awkward position since it was submitted for MA thesis, conducted at the American University of Beirut. Having this in mind, we refrained from making any kind of comment on attributions.

Coin No. 8 is a silver tetradrachm of Tigranes II; it is similar to a tetradrachm illustrated in the *Silver Coinage of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia*, by Y. T. Nercessian, p. 63, A47-P1e, P1b. Footnote 59 states, "This tetradrachm has been withdrawn from the auction. It has been examined and determined that it was a probable forgery."

Coin No. 107 is a copper coin given to Tigranes II and described as AE quadriga.

If a person takes the time and compares with ACV 136 he will be persuaded that it is a biga and should be ascribed to Tigranes III.

LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

I have had a copper coin of Tigranes II (?) in my collection for some time. Because of the unusual tiara and an object which I have never seen on the reverse of an Artaxiad coin, I thought the coin had been tooled some time in the past. However, when I recently reviewed your book "Armenian Coins and Their Values" I found an obverse almost identical to the one on my mystery coin. On the Tigranes II coin with elephant reverse [your number 117] you note the coin has an "unusual head". My coin is almost identical but the ear flap is slightly narrower, and the section of the tiara just above the head is slightly wider. Cannot tell whether there is a star in the tiara.

However, what is unique about this coin is the figure on the reverse. The reverse is badly corroded, and no legend is detectable. The sole object that is visible is what looks like a "torch". There is a curved handle [curve to left] which is pointed at the lower end. At the upper end there are two lines which traverse the handle. I originally believed these were tool marks. However, in looking at the notches with a jeweler's loop, I find there is corrosion on the bottom of the two lines similar to the corrosion on the rest of the reverse of the coin. Above the two lines are four or five vertical "rays" radiating out from the top of the handle. Again there is corrosion at the bottom of the spaces between the lines of the rays. Because the corrosion on the reverse comes up to either side of the handle and in the notches and between the rays, I believe the "torch" was the original design on the reverse of this coin.

Can you identify this coin for me? Thanks

Paul Mike Goorjian



QUARTER DOUBLE TRAMS AND BILLONS OF KING LEVON I

Plate 1

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

Introduction

The coinage of King Levon I (1198-1219) includes numerous types of coins.¹ If we disregard the commemorative gold issues, his quarter double trams and billons are the rarest coins that he struck. This author assigns them the highest, 10R rarity rating.²

The quarter double tram is a part of one-lion series of coins³ which were issued at the beginning of his royal reign or shortly before his anointment and coronation.⁴ The double trams and half double trams in the one-lion series are considered scarce coins.

His billons, both with Armenian legend and Latin legend, were struck for circulation within the principality of Crusader Antioch. Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian discussed extensively the historical events which prompted the minting of these two different billons patterned after the Crusader billon deniers circulating in Antioch.⁵

Information on all of these rare coins is distributed mostly among some scholarly publications and auction catalogues. The aim of this study is to bring together all known information on quarter double trams, Armenian-inscribed and Latin-inscribed billons, and to prepare a die study on these jewels issued by King Levon I.

Quarter Double Trams

In 1962, Bedoukian catalogued three quarter double trams in his *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* [CCA].⁶ In the revised edition of this monumental work, the census of quarter double trams remained the same. In 1962, 1963, and 1979 editions of CCA, the weight of only one quarter double tram is reported.⁷

In 1995, this author published his *Armenian Coins and Their Values* where he indicated that the number of known quarter double trams had increased to four. The fourth⁸ and

¹ Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* [CCA] (New York, 1962; Vienna, 1963; revised edition, Danbury, Connecticut, 1979), pp. 130-226, Nos. 5-6, 9-770; Y. T. Nercessian, *Armenian Coins and Their Values* [ACV] (Los Angeles, 1995), pp. 109-122, Nos. 253-314.

² Nercessian, ACV, p. 214.

³ Paul Z. Bedoukian, "The Double Tram Series of Levon I of Cilician Armenia," *Numismatic Chronicle*, VII Series, Vol. XVI (1976), pp. 98-108, pls. 18-25; reprinted in *Selected Numismatic Studies* [SNS II] (Los Angeles, 1981), pp. 279-297.

⁴ For an excellent study of historical events leading to the anointment and coronation of Levon I, see Paul Z. Bedoukian, "A Large Hoard of Coronation Trams of Levon I," *Handes Amsorya*, Vol. XC (1976), pp. 409-440; reprinted in SNS II, pp. 302-317.

⁵ Paul Z. Bedoukian, "Cilician Armenia and Crusader Antioch," *Handes Amsorya*, Vol. CI (1987), pp. 815-832; reprinted in *Selected Numismatic Studies II* [SNS II] (Los Angeles, 2003), pp. 170-200.

⁶ Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963, 1979), p. 137, No. 68.

⁷ *ibid.*

⁸ Nercessian, ACV, p. 114, No. 276.

illustrated example in this monograph belonged to Jack Guevrekian. The author purchased this coin from the Classical Numismatic Group "Araratian Collection" auction sale.⁹

In 2002, Mrs. M.-L. Garabedian published the catalogue of the B. V. Zoubov collection,¹⁰ listing another quarter double tram, bringing the total to five pieces. The Zoubov quarter double tram is preserved in the Historical Museum in Moscow.

In 2007, in his *Metrology of Cilician Armenian Coinage*, the author reported six quarter double trams.¹¹

In *Medieval Armenian Coins*, No. 13, Bedoukian¹² assigned a quarter double tram to the Hermitage Museum. In the same page Bedoukian stated "Only three specimens are known to exist — in the British Museum, the Hermitage Museum, and in the author's collection." In 1962, 1963, and 1979 editions of CCA,¹³ p. 137, No. 68, under quarter double trams subheading, Bedoukian noted that the existing coins are "1.27g, (92%), PB; ER (I); *BM (I)." He noted that one piece is preserved in the "ER" Museum. In three editions of CCA, p. 130, abbreviation "ER" stands for the "State Historical Museum, Erivan, Armenia." We think that while he was composing the *Medieval Armenian Coins* work, Bedoukian must have supposed that "ER" stands for Ermitage. How could it be that the Erevan Museum holding was forgotten in a work like MAC?

The Erevan example was extremely well publicized first by both articles of Berj Garabetian.¹⁴ It was part of a hoard found in 1936, in ancient Daphne (near Antioch). Mr. Armenak Poladian of Beirut purchased the entire Daphne Hoard which he donated to the History Museum of Armenia in Erevan in 1947.¹⁵ Later Kh. A. Mousheghian¹⁶ published a brief report about this hoard. Bedoukian¹⁷ abridged and translated Mousheghian's article into English in the American Numismatic Society *Numismatic Literature*. Sixteen years later (1976), Bedoukian referenced the Daphne Hoard in an article, where he classified double trams and half double trams, but no quarter double trams; however, in SNS [I], p. 294, the Erevan quarter double tram is illustrated.¹⁸ In our opinion Bedoukian credited a quarter double tram to the ER[mitage] Museum instead of the ER[evan] Museum. Unfortunately, this confusion created a "new" quarter double tram which did not exist.

⁹ Classical Numismatic Group, Inc. [CNG], *Auction 36: A Public & Mail Bid Sale* (Lancaster, Pennsylvania and London, England, December 5-6, 1995, auctioned in New York City), pp. 51-80, under the title of "The 'Araratian Collection' of Armenian Coins," pp. 51-80, Nos. 529-918; quarter double tram, p. 69, No. 739. Sale price \$2,860.

¹⁰ M.-L. Garabedian, "B. V. Zoubov's Roupenian Coin Collection (Part I, Levon I)," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXVIII (2002), No. 3, pp. 67-84, data recorded in p. 73 (in Armenian), No. 48. The coin catalogues CCA 68, ACV 276. Unfortunately, Garabedian's aluminum foil rubbing of quarter double tram is missing.

¹¹ Y. T. Nercessian, *Metrology of Cilician Armenian Coinage* (Los Angeles, 2007), p. 11.

¹² Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Medieval Armenian Coins* [MAC] (Paris, 1971), 69 pp., 12 pls., especially p. 17, pl. II, No. 13, reprinted from *Revue des Études Arméniennes*, New Series, Vol. VIII (1971), pp. 365-431, pls. LXXXII-XCI; reprinted in SNS [I], pp. 191-268, especially pp. 206, 260, No. 13.

¹³ Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963, 1979), p. 137, No. 68.

¹⁴ Berj M. Garabetian, "The Coin Hoard of Daphne," *Bazmavep*, Vol. LVI (November-December 1948), Nos. 11-12, pp. 260-263; *Hask Hayagitakan Taregirk'*, Vol. II (1949-1950), pp. 16-21 (in Armenian).

¹⁵ M.-L. Garabedian, "The Donors of the History Museum of Armenia," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series II, Vol. 5 (35), (June 2009), pp. 47-53 (in Armenian).

¹⁶ Kh. A. Mousheghian, "A New Hoard of Armenian Coins," *Patma-Banasirakan Handes*, Vol. II (1959), No. 1 (4), pp. 293-294 (in Armenian).

¹⁷ Kh. A. Mousheghian, "A New Hoard of Armenian Coins," in American Numismatic Society *Numismatic Literature*, No. 53 (October 1960), p. 302, abridged and translated into English by P.Z.B.

¹⁸ Paul Z. Bedoukian, "The Double Tram Series of Levon I of Cilician Armenia," *Numismatic Chronicle*, Series VII, Vol. XVI (1976), pp. 98-108, pls. 18-25; reprinted in SNS [I], pp. 279-297.

In 1892, Fr. Clement Sibilian, in his book¹⁹ illustrated the line drawing (LD1)²⁰ of a quarter double tram of King Levon I. Fr. Sibilian wrote in his book, "After the first sheets of my book were printed, it was reported to me Levon II's another coin, mentioning of which here I consider necessary. This is a small silver half tram, property of the Armenian numismatist which was reported to me by G. Schlumberger. Here is the signature..."²¹ Fr. Sibilian sealed his life on May 23, 1878. Therefore, Schlumberger must have informed him on this subject prior to 1878. Fr. Sibilian did not provide any metrological data on the Alishan quarter double tram.

Bedoukian, after comparing the Fr. Sibilian line drawing with his quarter double tram, wrote²² that his coin may be the former Markar Alishan specimen. Markar Alishan was the father of Fr. Ghewond Alishan and numismatist Serovbe Alishan. In 1930s Bedoukian purchased numerous coins from Hagop Kelekian of Istanbul; most likely he acquired his quarter double tram around this time.²³ There is no information on how the Alishan coin was acquired by Kelekian.

In 2000, Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian's collection,²⁴ totaling over 4300 Armenian coins and some rare medals, as well as his research library, were donated to the Armenian Library and Museum of America [ALMA], Watertown, MA.

In 1936, K. J. Basmadjian in his famous book described a variant of half tram of Levon I.²⁵ There is no illustration. Based on his description and the obverse-reverse inscription, it is a quarter double tram. Studying its legend and accompanying art work, one would conclude that the Fr. Sibilian quarter double tram line drawing and the information served as a source for the Basmadjian description. Metrological data is not given and the whereabouts of the coin is not indicated.

Based on his experience and information he had received, in 1984, Bedoukian²⁶ places the number of extant quarter double trams at eight examples. Y. T. Nercessian²⁷ agrees with this estimate.

Catalogue of Quarter Double Trams

Obv.: The king is seated on a throne ornamented with lions, wearing a crown and royal mantle on his shoulders. He holds a globus cruciger in his r. hand and fleur-de-lys in his l. His feet rest on a footstool. Clockwise legend,
+ ԼԵՒՈՆ—Ն ԹԱԳ (Levon ki-), (legend continued on reverse)

Rev.: Lion crowned, turned l., holding a cross with two bars. Clockwise legend,
+ ԱՌՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՅ (ng of the Armenians).

¹⁹ Fr. Clement Sibilian, *Classification of Roupenian Coins* (Vienna, 1892), p. 78, Fig. 43 (in Armenian).

²⁰ * = illustrated in the plates.

²¹ Fr. Sibilian referenced numismatist Serovbe Alishan.

²² Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963, 1979), p. 137, footnote 1.

²³ Paul Z. Bedoukian, "Fifty Years of Armenian Numismatics," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XX (1994), No. 1, pp. 13-22; reprinted in SNS II, pp. 1-17, Hagop Kelekian in p. 5.

²⁴ Armenian Library and Museum of America, "Bedoukian Donates His Coin Collection to Armenian Library and Museum of America," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXVI (June 2000), No. 2, pp. 22-23.

²⁵ K. J. Basmadjian, *Numismatique générale de l'Arménie* (Venice, 1936), pp. 146-147 (in Armenian).

²⁶ Paul Z. Bedoukian, "Half Trams of Oshin and Levon IV of Cilician Armenia," *Revue des Études Arméniennes*, New Series, Vol. XVIII (1984), pp. 471-474; reprinted in SNS II, pp. 165-169.

²⁷ Y. T. Nercessian, "Half Trams of Cilician Armenian Kings," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXIX (June 2003), No. 2, pp. 35-52; reprinted in *Armenian Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2009), pp. 417-446, pl. 49-52 (in Armenian).

Q1•	AR 1.39g-17.6mm-9h, Erevan collection, Inv. 15447/63, dies	1	2
Q2•	AR 1.37g-19mm-1h, Nercessian collection, Inv. 5178, dies	1	2
LD1•	Fr. C. Sibilian, <i>Classification of Roupenian Coins</i> , Fig. 43, dies	3	4
Q3•	AR 1.27g-17mm, Ex-Bedoukian collection, dies	3	4
Q4•	AR British Museum collection, ²⁸ dies according to CCA	3	4
Q5	AR 1.33g-17mm-1h, Historical Museum of Moscow (Ex-Zoubov collection), ²⁹ Inv. 552968, dies	Unknown	

Billons Inscribed in Armenian

In 1962 Bedoukian was unaware of any billons inscribed in Armenian. In 1979, in the revised edition of CCA,³⁰ Bedoukian catalogued two Armenian-inscribed billons, one belonging to him and the other belonging to his son-in-law, Torkom Demirjian, then a mail order Armenian coin and book dealer.

Bedoukian's Armenian-inscribed billon was part of a Crusader hoard discovered in 1966 in the vicinity of Crusader Antioch.³¹ It consisted entirely of 845 billons, all belonging to Prince Bohemond IV of Antioch (1189-1232, Tripoli and 1213-1232, Antioch), with the exception of one billon attributed to Levon I.³² Mr. Miadsin Havandjian sold the entire Crusader hoard including the Armenian-inscribed billon to Bedoukian.³³ After receiving the hoard, Bedoukian was extremely excited about discovering the first Armenian-inscribed billon,³⁴ and wrote, "This was a unique discovery worthy of publication," as he composed his articles on this newly acquired coin and discussed all of the Latin-inscribed billons of Levon I in both languages, in English³⁵ and Armenian.³⁶

In 1997, in London, the Slocum collection³⁷ was auctioned by Sotheby's.³⁸ His collection included coins of the Crusader period and Cilician Armenian coins. One of the rarities that the Armenian section offered was a very attractive Armenian-inscribed billon of Levon I. The cataloguer tried to offer the past history of this pedigree coin, and added "Purchased from T. Demirjian, New York, November 1978." However, Torkom Demirjian's published sale catalogues do not list this billon. Perhaps it was obtained from the dealer's stock.

In 2007, in his metrology book the author reported only two known Armenian-inscribed billons.³⁹

In November 2008, the author purchased an Armenian-inscribed Levon billon (overstruck) from a private party, raising the total to three.⁴⁰

²⁸ Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963), p. 131, pl. IV, No. 68.

²⁹ Garabedian, "B. V. Zoubov's Roupenian Coin Collection," No. 48.

³⁰ Bedoukian, CCA (1979), p. 131, No. 12a.

³¹ For an excellent study on the relationship of Cilician Armenia and Crusader Antioch, see Bedoukian, "Cilician Armenia and Crusader Antioch," *Handes Amsorya*, pp. 815-832; SNS II, pp. 170-200.

³² Paul Z. Bedoukian, "A Unique Billon of Levon I of Cilician Armenia and Its Historical Significance," *Numismatic Chronicle*, VII Series, Vol. VII (1967), pp. 189-197, pl. XIV; reprinted in SNS II, pp. 108-112.

³³ Bedoukian, "Fifty Years of Armenian Numismatics," Miadsin Havandjian in SNS II, pp. 13.

³⁴ *ibid.*, p. 14.

³⁵ See above, footnote 32.

³⁶ Paul Z. Bedoukian, "A Unique Billon of Levon I of Cilician Armenia and Its Historical Significance," in *Handes Amsorya*, Vol. LXXXI (1967), columns 171-184; reprinted in SNS II, pp. 389-395, illus. (in Armenian).

³⁷ Y. T. Nercessian, *Armenian Coin Auctions* (Los Angeles, 2006), pp. 66-69.

³⁸ Sotheby's, *The John J. Slocum Collection of Coins of the Crusades* (London, March 6-7, 1997), pp. 59-66, No. 471-555, and plates; billon inscribed in Armenian, p. 61, No. 501. Sale price £1,430 (£1.00=\$1.61).

³⁹ Nercessian, *Metrology of Cilician Armenian Coinage*, p. 6.

⁴⁰ Private sale price \$3,500.

It is worth noting that the obverse-reverse inscription of the Armenian-inscribed billon reminds the circular legend of Levon I tanks (ՀԱՅԻՈՑ instead of ՀԱՅՈՑ). The lettering is faithful to the style of tanks. The reverse circular legend states that the coin was “struck in the city of Sis.”

Based on his experience and information available to him through friends, collectors, and numismatists colleagues, the author indicates that the maximum estimate for the Armenian-inscribed billon's extant is four examples.⁴¹

Catalogue of Armenian-Inscribed Billons

Obv.: A crowned head of king facing. Clockwise legend,

+ ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳՈՐ ՀԱՅԻՈՑ (Levon king of the Armenians)

Rev.: Cross with dots in first and third quadrants. Clockwise legend,

+ ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳՆ Ի ՍԻՍ (struck in the city of Sis).

BA1•	Bi 0.70g-17mm, Ex-Bedoukian collection, ⁴² dies	5	6
------	--	---	---

BA2•	Bi 0.71g-16mm, Ex-Slocum collection, dies	5	7
------	---	---	---

BA3•	Bi 0.69g-17mm-4h, Nercessian collection, Inv. 5928, dies	5	8
------	--	---	---

Obv. legend: + ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳՈՐ .. ԳԱՂԱԳ

Undertype, visible at 10 o'clock, the lower arm of the reverse cross and the word “ԳԱՂԱԳ”. Cross with dots of third (?) and fourth quadrants.

Rev. legend: [+Շ]ԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ԳԱՂԱԳ .. ԼԵՒՈՆ Թ

Undertype, visible, the upper right side of the crown, the right eyebrow, partially the four dots of the right pendent.

Billons Inscribed in Latin

In 1962, Bedoukian catalogued four Latin-inscribed billons of Levon I in his CCA.⁴³ In the revised edition the census of the billons were raised to five pieces.⁴⁴ Metrological data for these billons was not available.

In 1995, the author published his ACV where he indicated that the number of known Latin-inscribed billons is seven pieces.⁴⁵

In 2007, in the metrology book, the author reported six known Latin-inscribed billons.⁴⁶ Since then, the number of known Latin-inscribed billons has not changed, no new discoveries.

Guevrekian started disposing his personal collection during his lifetime. In December 1995, in New York City, the best of Guevrekian collection⁴⁷ was auctioned by Classical Numismatic Group, Inc.⁴⁸ Two of his coins are catalogued in this paper. The first is a quarter

⁴¹ Nercessian, “Half Trams of Cilician Armenian Kings.”

⁴² Bedoukian, MAC, SNS II, No. 32; CCA (1979), p. 131, No. 12a; also in Bedoukian, “Cilician Armenia and Crusader Antioch,” *Handes Amsorya*, Vol. CI (1987), p. 830; SNS II, pl. 19.

⁴³ Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963), p. 131, Nos. 9-12, pl. I.

⁴⁴ Bedoukian, CCA (revised edition, 1979), p. 131, Nos. 9-12, pl. I.

⁴⁵ Nercessian, ACV, p. 115, Nos. 280, 281.

⁴⁶ Nercessian, *Metrology of Cilician Armenian Coinage*, p. 6.

⁴⁷ Y. T. Nercessian, *Armenian Coin Auctions*, pp. 52-65.

⁴⁸ Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., *Auction 36: A Public & Mail Bid Sale*, p. 71, No. 767. Sale price \$1,430.

double tram, as mentioned earlier; the second, is a Latin-inscribed billon which was not classified in Bedoukian's CCA corpus but catalogued and illustrated in the ACV plates.⁴⁹

In addition to these Latin-inscribed billons, there is another piece reported by Schlumberger⁵⁰ in 1875 and 1878. Fr. Sibilian gave the line drawing of this coin (LD2) described by Schlumberger, and the Armenian translation of Schlumberger's essay dedicated to this billon.⁵¹ At the time when Schlumberger's essay was composed, it was in the collection of Prince Fürstenberg, in Donaueschingen, Germany. Also, it is described by Basmadjian.⁵² Basmadjian's line drawing is copied from Jacques de Morgan's history book⁵³ where only a line drawing is published without any comments. The initials "JM" are visible on Basmadjian's illustration. Schlumberger, Fr. Sibilian, de Morgan, and Basmadjian, offer a line drawing of this coin and that is all we have for our study. Unfortunately, Basmadjian does not reference his source but gives 19 mm as the diameter reading for this billon.

A flan comparison of Fürstenberg billon's line drawing with others of the same legend variation (Bedoukian and Guevrekian Latin-inscribed billons, see below, billons BL1 and BL2) is persuasive enough to demonstrate that the closest is the Bedoukian billon. In his paper, where Bedoukian described the Armenian-inscribed billon, and discussed the Latin-inscribed billons,⁵⁴ gave the Schlumberger references relating to the Fürstenberg billon, and then he stated, "The billon illustrated in this article appears to be the one described by Schlumberger. It is now in the author's collection." And that he purchased it in 1965 from the Münzen und Medaillen auction sale in Switzerland.⁵⁵ The coins are listed under the title of "Collection d'un amateur suisse, VI^e partie, Monnaies de l'Orient Latin, Münzen der Kreuzfahrerstaaten/Coins of the Crusaders." Two of the lots listed in p. 61, have a statement relating to the past history. The past history of lot 790 reads, "Provient de la collection du prince Furstenberg, vente A. E. Cahn 75, 30 mai 1932, No. 1881 («inédit»), anciennement collection F. de Saulcy." No such kind of statement is attached to the lot of No. 789, the Latin-inscribed pedigree billon Bedoukian purchased. In whose collection was lot 789? And who was the collector "amateur suisse"? Hence, as a past history for the Bedoukian Latin-inscribed pedigree billon, we do not know what transpired from 1875 to 1965.

Nvard or Nadia Kapamadjian passed away in 1978. In 1983, S. Boutin⁵⁶ catalogued her collection including all of her Armenian coins. In 1992, in Paris, her collection⁵⁷ was auctioned by E. Bourgey.⁵⁸ The Armenian section included a very attractive Latin-inscribed billon of King Levon I. Bedoukian had included the Kapamadjian billon in his book dedicated to the coinage of Cilician Armenia (1979). Bedoukian classified the coin as CCA 9 in his

⁴⁹ Nercessian, ACV, p. 115, pl. 21, No. 281.

⁵⁰ Gustave Schlumberger, "Monnaies des princes Chrétiens d'Orient, à l'époque des croisades," *Revue Archéologique*, Vol. XXX (1875), pp. 345-349; also in *Numismatique de l'Orient Latin* (Paris, 1878; reprint, Graz, 1954), p. 40, pl. III, No. 10.

⁵¹ Sibilian, pp. 18-21, Fig. 8.

⁵² Basmadjian, p. 148, Fig. 85.

⁵³ Jacques de Morgan, *The History of the Armenian People* (English translation, Boston, 1965), p. 223 (the French original published in 1919).

⁵⁴ Bedoukian, "A Unique Billon of Levon I of Cilician Armenia and Its Historical Significance," *Numismatic Chronicle*, p. 193; SNS II], p. 107, footnote 5.

⁵⁵ Münzen und Medaillen A.G. Basel, *Auktion 30* (Basel, Switzerland, Nov. 5-6, 1965), p. 61, plate 49, No. 789. Sale price S.F.1,200.

⁵⁶ S. Boutin, *Collection N. K.: Monnaies des Empires de Byzance, ... Monnaies de l'Arménie Artaxiate et de l'Arménie Cilicienne* (Maastricht, Netherlands, 1983), p. 165, pl. LXIV, No. 1223.

⁵⁷ Nercessian, *Armenian Coin Auctions*, pp. 21-25.

⁵⁸ E. Bourgey, *Numismatique Collection N. K.: Monnaies Byzantines, Barbares, Orient Latin, Arméniennes*. (Paris, Oct. 27-29, 1992), p. 92, No. 887. Sale price FF6,800 (FF5.00=\$1.00).

corpus. The photographs in the Bourgey catalogue (lot No. 887) or especially Boutin's plates (Pl. LXIV, No. 1223), show very distinctly the obverse legend as "REX ARMENOR". The Boutin picture is slightly darker than the Bourgey picture. However, the shadow on Boutin's picture explicitly shows the letters in the word "ARMENOR" and without any doubt the letter "I" is not present in the legend. This would classify the billon as CCA No. 10 and variation No. 2 as catalogued below.

In 1905, Schlumberger published a paper in *Revue Numismatique*, where he discussed two Latin-inscribed silver billons of King Levon.⁵⁹ He reviewed once more the Fürstenberg billon (LD3) for comparison purposes, and described his newly acquired billon inscribed in different Latin inscription (LD4). He presented new but slightly darker line drawings for both varieties of these billons.⁶⁰ In 1929, the Schlumberger collection, including the billon of King Levon, was donated to the coin cabinet of Bibliothèque Nationale de France.

In 1936, Basmadjian described a coin in his book, as a second variety of billons inscribed in Latin.⁶¹ He did not reference his source nor print any line drawing, but gave the diameter reading as 18 mm. This could be the Schlumberger's Latin-inscribed billon preserved in the Bibliothèque Nationale de France coin cabinet as mentioned above. Basmadjian's diameter reading agrees with Dr. Michel Amandry's reading, 18/19 mm.

It is extremely important to bring to the attention of our readers that, in addition to the different Armenian and Latin orthographies, a distinct difference exists between Armenian-inscribed and Latin-inscribed billons of King Levon. The Armenian-inscribed billons have the king's head and signature on the obverse; cross and the name of the mint, Sis is engraved in the reverse inscription circle. The Latin-inscribed billons, on the other hand, have the king's head and title on the obverse; cross and the signature, on the reverse. The name of the mint is not inscribed at all on the Latin-inscribed coin.

In discussing Latin-inscribed billons, Bedoukian wrote in MAC, SNS [I], No. 33, that "There are four variations of this legend, represented by only six specimens."⁶² Reviewing his CCA, p. 131, the Latin legend variations are Nos. 9, 10 as one, No. 11 as the second, No. 12 as being the last and third variety.⁶³ In his paper, referencing to Latin-inscribed billons known to him, Bedoukian stated "five specimens of this type of coin are known to exist representing three varieties."⁶⁴ Extensive and exhaustive research has been conducted. To the best of this author's knowledge, there is no more numismatic literature left on this

⁵⁹ Gustave Schlumberger, "Mélanges de Numismatique et de Sigillographie Médiévales; I. Monnaies d'argent inédites à légende Latine du Roi Léon (ou Léon) II d'Arménie," *Revue Numismatique*, IV Series, Vol. IX (1905), pp. 355-356, illus.

⁶⁰ Discussing line drawings is beyond the scope of this paper. But since we presented four line drawings in our plate, it must be mentioned. Both line drawings LD2 and LD3 were prepared by Schlumberger or he commissioned an artist to execute them. There is one major difference that we would like to bring to the attention of our readers. The left pendent, hanging from king's crown, on LD2 has a curve; on LD3 it has three dots. On the coin itself, only two dots are visible, the third dot is obliterated by a graffiti or some kind of punch mark (not shown in LD2 and LD3). This reveals that a line drawing always, exactly, is not the same as the coin itself. It is a conceptual drawing rendered by an artist of what the coin design should be. One should be suspicious of it if it represents "the coin as is." It can never represent the actual condition of the coin. There is a big difference between a line drawing and a photograph.

⁶¹ Basmadjian, p. 148.

⁶² Bedoukian, MAC, SNS [I], p. 211, No. 33.

⁶³ Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963, 1979), p. 131, Nos. 9-12.

⁶⁴ Bedoukian, "A Unique Billon of Levon I of Cilician Armenia and Its Historical Significance," *Numismatic Chronicle*, pp. 189-197, pl. XIV; SNS [I], p. 108.

subject to research. As of to date, the author has seen only three variations of Latin inscription on six billons known to him and catalogued in this paper.

Based on his experience and information available to him through numismatist colleagues, friends, and collectors, the author indicated in his half tram article that the maximum estimate for Latin-inscribed billon's extant is ten examples.⁶⁵

Catalogue of Latin-Inscribed Billons

Variation (1)

- Obv.: A crowned head of king facing. Clockwise legend,
+ REX ARMENIOR
- Rev.: Cross without dots. Clockwise legend,
+ LEO DEI GRATIA
- LD2• G. Schlumberger, *Revue Archéologique*, Vol. XXX (1875), pp. 345-349;
also in *Numismatique de l'Orient Latin* (Paris, 1878), p. 40, pl. III,
No. 10.
- LD3• G. Schlumberger, *Revue Numismatique*, IV Series, Vol. IX (1905),
pp. 355-356
- BL1• Bi 1.06g-19mm, Ex-Bedoukian collection,⁶⁶ dies 9 10
- BL2• Bi 0.74g-18mm, Ex-Guevrekian collection, dies 11 12

Variation (2)

- Obv.: A crowned head of king facing. Clockwise legend,
+ REX ARMENOR
- Rev.: Cross without dots. Clockwise legend,
+ LEO DEI GRATIA
- BL3• Bi 0.87g-17mm, Ex-Kapamadjian collection, dies 13 14
- BL4• Bi Vienna Mekhitarist Congregation collection,⁶⁷ dies according to CCA 15 16
- BL5• Bi Mardikian Museum⁶⁸ collection (now Cilicia Museum, Catholicosate
of the Great House of Cilicia, Antelias, Lebanon), (the legend
"LEO DEI" is partially legible), dies according to CCA⁶⁹ 17 18

Variation (3)

- Obv.: A crowned head of king facing. Clockwise legend,
+ ARMENOR
- Rev.: Cross without dots. Clockwise legend,
+ LEO REX
- LD4• G. Schlumberger, *Revue Numismatique*, IV Series, Vol. IX (1905), pp. 355-356
- BL6• Bi 1.09g-19mm-11h, Bibliothèque Nationale de France collection,⁷⁰
Inv. Schlumberger 1391, dies 19 20

⁶⁵ Nercessian, "Half Trams of Cilician Armenian Kings."

⁶⁶ Bedoukian, MAC, SNS II, p. 261, No. 33; CCA (1979), p. 131, pl. I, No. 9; Bedoukian, "Cilician Armenia and Crusader Antioch," *Handes Amsorya*, Vol. CI (1987), p. 830; SNS II, pl. 19.

⁶⁷ Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963), p. 131, pl. I, No. 10.

⁶⁸ Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963), p. 131, pl. I, No. 11.

⁶⁹ The quality of the illustrations of CCA (1962, 1963) coins 11 and 68 are not adequate for a die study.

⁷⁰ Raymond H. Kévorkian, *Arménie entre Orient et Occident* (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, 1996), p. 244, column 5, No. 191⁵. Kévorkian gives 12 mm diameter for the Schlumberger billon, but this diameter reading is inaccurate. Dr. Michel Amandry measured the correct diameter as 18/19 mm. Kévorkian does not provide a photograph of this Latin-inscribed billon either; however, he published the inventory number as Schlumberger 1391.

Dies

Only author's personal examples were examined directly from the coins. All other examples, quarter double trams and billons, were studied from their actual photographs, in some cases in rather poor quality. This reason was another consideration for the inclusion of line drawings in the photographic plates.

Quarter double trams. Based on the photographs and published numismatic literature, and information available to us, the known quantity of quarter double trams is five. We have no photograph or line drawing of the coin of Zoubov collection. The four examples were struck with two obverse and two reverse dies.

Billons inscribed in Armenian. There are three known billons with Armenian legend. Based on photographs and published information available to us, all of them were struck with the same obverse die and three reverse dies. Note that the obverse and reverse of third Armenian-inscribed billon are overstruck with the opposite die of the same coin.

Billons inscribed in Latin. The extant of billons with Latin legend is six. However, the Latin inscription, in general, falls into three different variations. In one case we have "Rex Armenior/Leo Dei Gratia" (2 examples), in second case we have "Rex Armenor/Leo Dei Gratia" (3 examples), and in third case "Armenor/Leo Rex" (1 example). The six known billons were struck with six obverse and six reverse different dies.

We have no way of knowing how many quarter double trams, Armenian-inscribed billons, and Latin-inscribed billons were struck with these 20 dies (1-4 quarter double trams, 5-8 Armenian-inscribed billons, 9-20 Latin-inscribed billons). Inscribed manuscripts do not reveal any information on the activities of the Armenian mints in Sis, Tarsus, and Ayas. Numismatists have made some experiments and calculated the number of coins can be struck with ancient and medieval dies and have reached certain conclusions.⁷¹

If we use the smallest and the most conservative figure of the estimate⁷² that numismatists have agreed on, for our project, 2,000 coins for one obverse die (assuming that during the process of coin striking the die is not broken), we can conjecture that, at minimum, they struck 4,000 quarter double trams, 2,000 billons with Armenian inscription, and 12,000 billons in Latin inscription.

If these projections are close to being correct, the survival rate of quarter double trams may have been 0.1% (4 out of 4,000, one coin in a Russian museum excluded from the computation), billons with Armenian legend 0.1% (2 out of 2,000, the overstruck coin assumed to be one example and excluded from the computation), and billons with Latin legend 0.05% (6 out of 12,000).

These figures give some idea about the very low survival rate of some of the rarest Cilician Armenian coins and the huge loss that we have had.

⁷¹ Estimating the number of coins per die is a controversial subject. Some numismatists have proposed various figures ranging from c. 2,000 to 78,000 for one obverse die (F. de Callatay, "Calculating Ancient Coin Production: Seeking a Balance," *Numismatic Chronicle*, Vol. 155 (1995), pp. 289-311; W. W. Esty and G. F. Carter, "The Distribution of the Numbers of Coins Struck by Dies," *American Journal of Numismatics*, Vols. 3-4 (1992), pp. 165-186).

⁷² *ibid.*

Metrology

Metrological data on all of these coins (see Table 1) is not available and the quantity of known examples is extremely limited.

Four examples of quarter double trams have an average weight of 1.34 grams and diameter of 17.65 mm.

Table 1. *Metrological data*

Quarter double trams			Armenian-inscribed billons			Latin-inscribed billons		
Coin	Weight (grams)	Diameter (mm)	Coin	Weight (grams)	Diameter (mm)	Coin	Weight (grams)	Diameter (mm)
Q1	1.39	17.6	BA1	0.70	17	BL1	1.06	19
Q2	1.37	19	BA2	0.71	16	BL2	0.74	18
Q3	1.27	17	BA3	0.69	17	BL3	0.87	17
Q4	---	---	Avg.	0.70	16.67	BL4	---	---
Q5	1.33	17				BL5	---	---
Avg.	1.34	17.65				BL6	1.09	19
						Avg.	0.94	18.25

Three examples of billons inscribed in Armenian have an average weight of 0.70 gram. If scaling off the diameter from published sources is acceptable,⁷³ we can calculate 16.67 mm as the average diameter of three examples.

We have six known billons inscribed in Latin but the weight of only four examples are available, yielding an average of 0.94 gram. The average of scaled and measured diameter of four examples is 18.25 mm.

Die axis orientation readings are available only from a few examples. They seem to be erratic, each one has a different orientation, and do not follow an orderly system.

Table 2a. *History of quarter double trams*

Coin	History
Q1	1947 History Museum of Armenia, 1940s? Armenak Poladian, 1936 Daphne hoard
Q2	1995 Y. T. Nercessian, 1995 December 5-6 Classical Numismatic Group "Araratian Collection" Auction I, 1980s? Jack Guevrekian
Q3	2000 Armenian Library and Museum of America, 1930s Paul Z. Bedoukian, 1930s? Hagop Kelekian, 1870s? Alishan family
Q4	British Museum
Q5	1955? Historical Museum in Moscow, 1903? B. V. Zoubov

⁷³ Most modern auction catalogues utilize digital cameras and print their coin pictures with one to one ratio. Scaling off coin diameter from a picture is not a very scientific method since during the process of printing the size could have changed. But the alternative would be not having any diameter reading (or only one Armenian-inscribed billon, in this case) on these extremely rare coins.

Pedigree Coins

From recent sale and auction catalogues the author learned by experience that if a past history of a coin is recorded and attached to the coin of a famous collector, that piece is considered a pedigree coin and valued more by collectors and bidders. Most sale and auction cataloguers try their utmost to include this information with the coin. In fact in many cases they even have attached previous auction house sale envelopes in which the coin has been delivered to the previous client.

The information, relating to the past history of pedigree coins catalogued in this study, are given in Tables 2a, 2b, 2c.

The whereabouts of three pedigree coins remain unknown, The Armenian-inscribed billon of John Slocum (BA2), the Latin-inscribed billons of Jack Guevrekian (BL2) and Nadia Kapamadjian (BL3). Readers who may have more information, are more than welcome to write us on this subject.

Collectors generally are interested in the past history of their coins. If this information is available it is recorded and kept with his coin. For example, Bedoukian spent time and recorded in his works the past history of his quarter double tram,⁷⁴ both billons inscribed in Armenian⁷⁵ and Latin.⁷⁶

Table 2b. *History of Armenian-inscribed billons*

Coin	History
BA1	2000 Armenian Library and Museum of America, 1966 Paul Z. Bedoukian, 1966 Miadsin Havandjian, 1966 Crusader hoard of the vicinity of Antioch
BA2	1997 March 6-7 Sotheby's Auction, 1978 John Slocum, 1978 Torkom Demirjian
BA3	2008 Y. T. Nercessian, 2008 Private party

In 1995, in the "Araratian Collection" auction sale there was a gold half tahekan of King Levon I.⁷⁷ This was discovered in a hoard which included many other gold coins. Before the consummation of the auction, Mr. Bernhard Schulte, the director of the Münzen und Medaillen auction house, in Basel, Switzerland, and also the buyer of the hoard which included the Armenian gold coin, wrote a letter to Mr. Victor England, the director of the Classical Numismatic Group⁷⁸ auction house, in Lancaster, PA. He gave him pertinent information on the hoard, made recommendations, and added, "This information should be fixed to the coin, because it is very important. So I agree, if you give this information to the buyer, if there is one, as I hope."

⁷⁴ Bedoukian, CCA (1962, 1963, 1979), p. 137, footnote 1.

⁷⁵ Bedoukian, "A Unique Billon of Levon I of Cilician Armenia and Its Historical Significance," *Numismatic Chronicle*, pp. 189-197, pl. XIV; SNS [I], pp. 108-112.

⁷⁶ Münzen und Medaillen, *Auktion 30*, p. 61, plate 49, No. 789.

⁷⁷ Nercessian, ACV, p. 109, pl. 18, No. 255; Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., *Auction 36: A Public & Mail Bid Sale*, p. 67, No. 714.

⁷⁸ Y. T. Nercessian, "Additional Evidence on the Authenticity of Cilician Armenian Gold Coins," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXX (December 2004), No. 4, pp. 91-98, reprinted in *Armenian Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2009), pp. 199-209, pl. 41.

When the author was working on his book, *Silver Coinage of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia*,⁷⁹ it was a great challenge for him to record past history on all silver coins, as much as he could locate in his sources.

It is hoped that the above three examples on recording the past history are sufficient to persuade the readers to record and preserve the past history of their coins.⁸⁰

Table 2c. *History of Latin-inscribed billons of Levon I*

Coin	History
BL1	2000 Armenian Library and Museum of America, 1965 Paul Z. Bedoukian, 1965 November 5-6 Münzen und Medaillen Auction 30, 1875 Prince Fürstenberg
BL2	1995 December 5-6 Classical Numismatic Group "Araratian Collection" Auction I, 1980? Jack Guevrekian
BL3	1992 October 27-29 Bourgey Auction, 1970s? Nadia Kapamadjian
BL4	Vienna Mekhitarist Congregation
BL5	Mardikian Museum (now Cilicia Museum, Catholicosate of the Great House of Cilicia)
BL6	1929 Bibliothèque Nationale de France, 1905 Gustave Schlumberger

ԼԵՒՈՆ Ա. ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐԻՆ

ՔԱՌՈՐԴ ԵՐԿԴՐԱՄՆԵՐՆ ՈՒ ԲԻԼԼՈՆՆԵՐԸ

[Ամփոփում]

Լևոն Ա (1198-1219) թագաւորին քառորդ երկդրամներն ու բիլլոնները կը նկատուին իր ամենէն հազուագիւտ դրամները, եթէ անտեսենք իր ոսկեայ շքադրամները:

Քառորդ երկդրամը կը պատկանի իր մէկ առիւծով դրամներու շարքին, որոնք թողարկուած են Լևոնի թագաւորութեան սկիզբը կամ ալ իր օծման արարողութենէն առաջ:

Իր բիլլոնները, հայատառ ու լատինատառ, թողարկուած են խաչակիրներու բիլլոններուն նման և հատաւումած խաչակիր Անտիոքի իշխանապետութեան մէջ շրջանառութեան համար: Ջարեհ Պտուկեան քննարկած է այս շրջանի պատմական դէպքերը, որոնք հրահրած են այս բիլլոններուն երկու տարբեր թողարկումները:

Ահարաժեշտ տեղեկութիւնները այս չափազանց հազուագիւտ դրամներու մասին տարածուած են տարբեր բանասիրական հրատարակութեանց և բազմաթիւ աճուրդի կատալոգ-

⁷⁹ Y. T. Nercessian, *Silver Coinage of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia* (Los Angeles, 2006), for the past history of coins, see the "Catalogue" section, pp. 24-115.

⁸⁰ I would like to extend my thanks to Mr. Ruben Vardanyan of the Numismatics Section of the History Museum of Armenia, for sending me the photographs of their quarter double tram and its metrological data; and to Dr. Michel Amandry of Bibliothèque Nationale de France for e-mailing to me the correct metrological data, and François Thierry for the photographs of the Schlumberger billon.

ներուն մէջ: Ներկայ յօդուածին նպատակը՝ բոլորն ալ համախմբել է մէկ աշխատասիրութեան մէջ և ուսումնասիրել այս գոհարներուն կաղապարները:

1962-ին, Զարեհ Պտուկեան ցուցակագրեց երեք քառորդ երկդրամներ և չորս լատինատառ բիլլոններ իր կոթողային մենագրութեան՝ կիլիկեան Հայաստանի դրամները գիրքին մէջ: Սոյն գիրքի բարեփոխուած հրատարակութեան (1979) մէջ ցանկագրուեցան դարձեալ երեք քառորդ երկդրամ, սակայն բիլլոնները բարձրացան երկու հայատառի ու հինգ լատինատառի: Ստորագրեալի Հայկական դրամներն ու իրենց արժէքները գիրքին մէջ յիշուեցաւ, թէ գոյութիւն ունին չորս քառորդ երկդրամներ, երեք հայատառ բիլլոններ և վեց լատինատառ բիլլոններ, իսկ իր Զափաղիտութիւն հայկական կիլիկիոյ դրամահատութեան (2007) գիրքին մէջ, տեղեկագրուեցան վեց քառորդ երկդրամներ, երկու հայատառ ու վեց լատինատառ բիլլոններ: Ներկայիս հաշուեկշիռը գրեթէ նոյնն է, աւելցած է միայն մէկ հատ հայատառ բիլլոն:

Ծանօթ քառորդ երկդրամներուն միայն չորսին նկարները մատչելի են: Ասոնց բոլորն ալ կոխուած են երկու երեսի ու երկու կռնակի կաղապարներով:

Երեք հայատառ բիլլոնները ունին նոյն երեսի կաղապար, սակայն կոխուած են երեք կռնակի տարբեր կաղապարներով:

Վեց լատինատառ բիլլոնները կը բաժնուին երեք տարբերակներու և կոխուած են վեց երեսի ու վեց կռնակի տարբեր կաղապարներ:

Դրամագէտներ զանազան փորձեր ու հաշուարկումներ կատարած են հին ու միջնադարեան կաղապարներով դրամ կտրելու համար: Եթէ ասոնց ամենէն նուազագոյնն ու պահպանողականը դործածենք մեր ծրագրին համար, կրնանք կռահել, որ փրկուած քառորդ երկդրամները թողարկուածներուն 0.1 առ հարիւրն են, հայատառ բիլլոնները՝ 0.1 առ հարիւր, իսկ լատինատառ բիլլոնները՝ 0.05 առ հարիւր:

Հաշուարկուած այս թիւերը գաղափար մը կու տան, թէ՛ հայկական կիլիկիոյ փրկուած դրամներու շատ ցած քանակին և թէ՛ մեր կորուստին ահաւորութեան մասին:

Զափաղիտական տուեալները չորս քառորդ երկդրամներուն համար 1.34 դրամ 17.65 մմ են, Հայատառ բիլլոնները ունին 0.70 դրամ կշիռ և 16.67 մմ արամագիծ երեք օրինակներու համար: Լատինատառ չորս բիլլոններուն համար ունինք 0.94 դրամ կշիռ և 18.25 մմ արամագիծ:

Այս աշխատանքի վերջաւորութեան՝ մեզի ծանօթ տեղեկութիւնը տրուած է հոս ընծայուած դրամներու տոհմագրութիւնը արձանագրելու: Համար: Մեզի հասած տեղեկութիւնը լրիւ ու կատարեալ չէ: Մեր ընթերցողներէն կը խնդրուի, որ եթէ յաւելեալ տեղեկութիւն ունին այս ուղղութեամբ, իրենց կարելիութեան սահմաններուն մէջ, օգնեն այդ տեղեկութիւնը մեզի հասցնել:

Ե. Թ. ՆԵՐՍԻՍԵԱՆ

**«ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԴՐԱՄԱՆԻՇԵՐԻ
ՓՈԽԱՆԱԿՄԱՆ ԵՒ ԱՐՏԱՊԱԿՏԵՐՄԱՆ ԿԱՆՈՆՆԵՐԸ»**

Հայաստանից ստացայ Հայաստանի Հանրապետության կենտրոնական բանկի հրատա-
րակած Հայաստանի Հանրապետությունում շրջանառության համար թողարկուած թղթադրամ-
ների, մետաղադրամների և յուշադրամների վնասուածութեան դէպքում սահմանուած կանոն-
ները:

15 էջանոց գրքոյկում նկրազարդ օրինակներով բացատրում է 1000-ից մինչև 50000
անուանական արժէքի թղթադրամների վճարունակութեան և փոխանակման մասին գործող
օրէնքները: Աղիւսակում տպագրուած է այդ թղթադրամների տարբերուերը և այլ տուեալներ:
Ապա մէկ առ մէկ բացատրում է, թէ ի՞նչ աստիճանի մաշուածութիւնը թոյլատրելի է և
վճարունակ: Հաստատուած է դրամների փոխանակման համար վնասուածութեան սահմանում-
ները: Դրանք են պահպանուած դրամների չափերը, իսկութիւնը հաստատող անհրաժեշտ
նշանների առկայութիւնը և այլ պայմաններ:

10-ից մինչև 500 դրամ անուանական արժէք ունեցող մետաղադրամների աղիւսակն էլ
տպուած է անհրաժեշտ տուեալներով: Բացատրում է մետաղադրամների արտաքին տեսքի
վնասուածութեան աստիճանը՝ ծոռած, կտրուած կամ տափակեցուած, քիմիական և այլ
ազդեցութիւններից քայքայուած դրամների վրայ պէտք է պահպանուած լինեն իսկութիւնը
փաստող նշաններ:

Իսկ, Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան թողարկած մետաղեայ յուշադրամների մասին
որոշում կայ, որ ամէն մի դրամ ունի իր առանձին Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան
կենտրոնական բանկի կողմից սահմանուած, ընդունուած կարբեր: Յաւելալ տեղեկութիւններ
չի տրուած:

Գրքոյկում շարադրուած հերթականութեամբ բացատրում է, թէ ինչպէս քաղաքացիները և
իրաւաբանական անձինք կարող են փոխանակել այս համաշ զրամները Հայաստանի
Հանրապետութեան կենտրոնական և առևտրային բանկերում: Վճարունակութեան առումով
կասկած յարուցող դրամանիշների փորձաքննութեան ընդունումը, և ամբողջ գործարքի
ընթացքը և կանոնները:

Գրքոյկը ամփոփում է Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան թղթադրամների գովազդի համար
արտապատկերման օրէնքի յիշեցումով: Որ արտատպման չափերը պէտք է փոքր կամ մեծ
լինեն 25%ի չափով և որ նկարը պէտք է տպուած լինի թղթի մէկ կողմի վրայ միայն:

Պետութեան սահմաններում դրամային շրջանառութեան համար այս տեղեկատու գրքոյկը
անհրժեշտութիւն է: Նա կարքաւորում և դիւրացնում է հանրապետութեան բնակիչների
առօրեայ կեանքը:

Յակոբ ԻՇԽԱՆԵԱՆ



Quarter double trams



Billons inscribed in Armenian



Billons inscribed in Latin

Y. T. Nercessian, Quarter Double Trams and Billons of Levon I

MONEY AND NUMISMATICS¹

Translator's introduction: This introduction to general and Armenian numismatics is from the pen of the late Beirut numismatist Asbed H. M. Donabedian. In 2006, Donabedian's colleagues at the Armenian Evangelical College in Beirut posthumously published a collected edition of his important numismatic studies under the title, *Echer Hai Tramakidoutean Badmoutenen* (Pages from Armenian Numismatic History), edited by Yervant H. Kasouni.² During my visit to Beirut in January of 2008, I asked a new acquaintance, prominent Beirut intellectual Mr. Jirair Tanielian, if he knew how I might procure a copy of this book. Mr. Tanielian kindly went out of his way and brought two copies to me as a gift from the publisher, principal of the Armenian Evangelical College Dr. Zaven Muserlian. In tribute to their generosity I offer here an English translation of the first chapter, "Tram yev Tramakidoutiun," from this book. The article originally appeared in the July 1967 issue of *Shirag Monthly* of Beirut. Kasouni thought it appropriate to separate the original *Shirag* article into two parts, based on its content, printing this first part as a stand-alone chapter (the second part concentrates on coinage of the Artaxiad dynasty). A few comments should be noted: In western Armenian, the term "tram" is used to refer generally to money as well as specifically to a coin or coins. Here, I have attempted to translate the term "tram" according to the context of the particular phrase where it is used, keeping in mind that in this article the author is generally speaking about coined money. The original text is written in western Armenian and western sound equivalents are used when transliteration is necessary. In a few places, I have added comments (indicated by brackets) to clarify certain points in the text. Where appropriate, I have also added a few footnotes to the article and these too are enclosed in brackets.

Numismatics forms an inseparable part of the study of the history of any civilized people. It has its distinct method of study and style of evaluation. It is a separate field of study which has been elaborated over a period of many decades into a broad and comprehensive picture. Numismatics draws information from numerous sources, has a characteristic artistic presentation, and shows evidence of the solution to many questions.

Below, under separate subtitles, we offer, as a brief introduction, an explanation of money, coins, and numismatics.

¹ The author of this study, Asbed H. M. Donabedian, was one of the prominent specialists in Armenian numismatics during the twentieth century. He was born in Lebanon on January 3, 1923. After graduating from the Armenian Evangelical School in 1947, Donabedian studied psychology at American University of Beirut, graduating with a BA in 1953. For nearly four decades thereafter (1953-1989) he was a professor at the Armenian Evangelical College in Beirut, lecturing in psychology, chemistry, general sciences, history, and Armenian history. During his lifetime, he was awarded silver and gold medals for his service to the College. An avid numismatic researcher, he used information gleaned from his forays into ancient coins and artifacts to illustrate his teaching. He also wrote a number of articles on Armenian coinage, particularly coins of the Artaxiad dynasty, which were published in various periodicals in Beirut. In 1989, he moved to Los Angeles (unfortunately without his coin collection, which was sold at auction by Spink in London on March 2, 1994), but died of a heart condition on January 23, 1993. His warm and pleasant personality endeared him to his many students and friends, several of whom as a mark of respect pooled their resources to bring this edition of his collected numismatic papers to light.

² Asbed H. M. Donabedian, *Echer Hai Tramakidoutean Badmoutenen* (Beirut: Armenian Evangelical College, 2006), 116 pages (available from P. O. Box 11-3672, Riad el Solh, Beirut 1107 2140, Lebanon).

What is numismatics?

Numismatics is a science that encompasses the collection and classification of coins and medals, but even more so, it is the field of study which concerns itself with ancient coins, especially their arrangement and logical attribution to various kings. And the individual who occupies himself with this work is called a numismatist.

What are coins, and what metals are they made of?

A coin is a circular piece of metal of a specific standard weight, issued by a government, which serves as a medium of exchange and as a measure of value. The most suitable metals for striking coins are gold, silver, copper, nickel, and certain alloys formed by mixing these metals together. Prior to the eighth century BC, iron, lead, glass, leather, and even ceramics were also used [as money].³ It is worth noting here that the use of paper currency and checks is comparatively very recent, with a history of barely two centuries.

When were coins discovered, and for what reason?

Before the existence of coined money, the sale of goods and commercial transactions took place by exchanges using the barter system. In other words, a good was traded by one individual in order to receive another item in exchange, which both parties desired to possess. After a while, because of the gradual advance of civilization [and because transactions were becoming more complicated], this system was no longer satisfactory. Coined money was becoming a necessity. Therefore, the invention of coined money was not a chance event but rather the result of a strong need. The use of coins gradually came to replace the barter exchange system.

The history of ancient times is replete with records which speak about the use of coined money. The earliest or oldest coins were crude, formless pieces of metal. Even iron bars and rings were used as money. But it would not be fair to regard these as coins. According to historical and archaeological information and evidence, coins were used for the first time in the eighth century BC, in Lydia. This country, with its capital Sardis, was located in western Asia Minor.

What are the most important characteristics of coins?

As was mentioned above, coined money was invented because it had already become an urgent necessity. Thus we can conclude that, compared to previously existing means of exchange, coins without doubt must have possessed several advantages that enabled them to supplant the previous methods. The most important properties of coins are:

- (1) Coined money is the best way to keep or store value.
- (2) Coins have wide international acceptability.
- (3) Money represents the easiest means of establishing value in commerce.
- (4) Coins are regarded as a standard of value [i.e., they have intrinsic value].
- (5) Coins are comparatively resistant to destruction and deterioration.
- (6) Compared to other materials, the value of a coin remains relatively stable.
- (7) Coins allow a large value to be stored in a small space.

³ [In some regions of the world these and similar materials, and the barter system generally, continued to be used long after the invention of coined money. LAS]

The above points demonstrate that the discovery of coins was a very important turning point in the development of civilization, and had a great influence on the progress of commerce.

What has been the purchasing power of coins from the beginning to the present?

Economic analyses and historical evidence demonstrate that, in the past, the purchasing power of coins was much greater than at the present time. Why? As we have already mentioned, since ancient times, gold and silver were the preferred metals for making coins since they best suited this purpose. These metals are easy to use and store. They do not deteriorate, they have just the correct degree of scarcity, [large amounts are easily divided into smaller fractions], and annual production does not rise or fall much from year to year.

Similarly, it is also important to point out the fact that in early times men did not have rapid or facile means of removing or purifying metal [ores] extracted from mines. Thus, the quantity of gold and silver that could be produced was limited. Consequently, the properties of coins combined with the relative scarcity of these metals contributed to their high purchasing power. In contrast, nowadays the existence of paper checks, certificates, bonds, and other new currency innovations have led to a great diminution of the purchasing power of money, and this circumstance increases year by year.

In other words, compared to ancient times, today we have much more money but it has much less purchasing power. Nowadays it takes a lot of money to buy a few things.

In what language are the legends on Armenian coins written?

During the Artaxiad period (190 BC – 6 AD), coins are inscribed only in Greek, because at that time the Armenian alphabet had not been invented. By contrast, the overwhelming majority of the coins of Armenian Cilicia (1080 – 1375 AD) carry Armenian legends. The bilingual coins of Hetoum-Kaikobad [and Hetoum-Kaikhosrew] are an exception, in which the reverse side legend is in Seljuk.⁴ It is likewise interesting that Levon I issued extremely rare and small coins inscribed in Latin, which some people believe were struck exclusively for the purpose of external commercial transactions.

Besides these, we have numerous overstruck Armenian coins—that is, certain Armenian coins that were struck a second time with Arabic legends in order to be accepted for use in Islamic markets. Of these overstruck Armenian coins with Arabic lettering, 95% belong to Levon IV of Cilicia, with a few from kings Oshin and Gosdantin III. It is an interesting fact to note that these anomalous coins are all of silver, demonstrating that silver coins had broader acceptability in external transactions.

From the first Republic of Armenia (1918) until the present, paper currency has generally been used. During the first Republic, these were printed in three languages, Armenian, French and Russian. These paper monies were printed in 1919 and circulated for barely three months.⁵ Because of this short circulation time, the majority of these are still found in well-preserved condition.

⁴ [Actually, the language of the inscriptions is Arabic. LAS]

⁵ [Here, Donabedian is referring specifically to the three so-called artistic or Fetvadjan banknotes, printed by Waterlow of London (and not the earlier paper currency of the Yerevan branch of the State Bank). The Fetvadjan notes did not reach Armenia until 1920. LAS]

After Armenia was sovietized, we had paper currency with four languages—Russian, Armenian, Georgian, and Azerbaijani. And after a certain period, the government of the Soviet Union instituted a new practice: namely, billions of rubles were printed with 15 languages representing the languages of each of the republics comprising the Soviet Union. One of these languages is Armenian.

How can numismatics benefit the study of other sciences?

Numismatics, archaeology, history, and early literature are related sciences. Sometimes, numismatic discoveries and hoard finds can shed light on certain unresolved historical questions. Similarly, numismatic problems are studied in the light of historical facts and evidence. For example, the existence of coronation trams of Levon I constitutes numismatic proof of Levon's coronation as king, and therefore also of the official elevation of Armenia to the status of a kingdom. For a long time, the existence of an Armenian king named Guy was unknown to many historians, but the existence of coins bearing his name is incontrovertible proof of the reign of a king with this name.

It is very important and worthwhile to understand the bilingual coin issues of Hetoum I, which are products of the mint of Sis. The coins of Hetoum-Kaikobad do not carry a date, whereas most of the Hetoum-Kaikhosrew coins bear a date in hegira notation. Thus, if we consider the dates, places, names, and titles on the coins, we can conclude that in those years (1237-1245 AD), the ruling king was King Hetoum I and not King Hetoum II. The existence of the bilingual coins is interpreted two ways by archaeologists: (a) as a Seljuk demand—Hetoum was at least nominally considered as a tributary of the Seljuk sultan; (b) as commemorative coins struck on the occasion of the treaty between the Armenians and the Seljuks.

How many historical periods of Armenian coinage are there, and with what materials were the coins made?

From the beginning to the present Armenia has not had a permanent independent government. For this reason, numismatists have divided Armenian coins according to historical periods. Some sort them into two periods, the pre-Mesrobian period and Cilician period. And others, among them the expert archaeologist Prof. A. A. Ebeyan, also add the Shah el-Armen period (1190-1259 AD).⁶ G[arabed] Basmadjian finds it appropriate to divide Armenian coinages into thirteen periods.⁷ In my opinion Armenian money can be appropriately grouped into four [historical] periods:

- (1) Yervantian (Orontid) period: 400 (?) BC to 190 BC
- (2) Artaxiad period: 189 BC to 6 AD
- (3) Cilician period: 1080 to 1375 AD
- (4) Republic period: 1918 to 1920 AD
- (5) Soviet period: 1920 to present⁸

Until the present time, the accepted viewpoint has been that coins of the Artaxiad era are made of silver and bronze. There are a dozen or so gold coins of Tigranes the Great known, but their authenticity is extremely questionable.

⁶ [See A. A. Ebeyan, *The Shah-el-Armen of the Ayyoubite Dynasty* (Beirut: Mshag Press, 1981). LAS]

⁷ [See K. J. Basmadjian, *Numismatique Generale de l'Armenie* (Venice: San Lazzaro, 1936). LAS]

⁸ [Here, a fifth period called "Soviet period: 1920 to present" is included in the text. LAS]

Similarly, the overwhelming majority of the coins of the Cilician period are made of copper, silver, or an alloy of these two metals. From this period scarce gold coins also exist, which are generally ascribed to Levon I, Hetoum I, and Gosdantin I. The authenticity of the gold coins attributed to the first two kings is questionable. But the latter [the gold coins of Gosdantin I] are definitely authentic, and just two examples are known—one in Venice, at the Museum of San Lazzaro, and the other in the Istanbul Museum.

During the period of the Republic [of Armenia], all of the monies printed were made of paper, the majority of which entered circulation for barely two months.⁹

Does every nation have its numismatics, and what is the situation regarding the Armenian nation?

Every developed nation has its own coins and numismatics. The people of these nations, even the children, can easily recognize their kings or presidents on their coins, and sometimes they even sort their pocket coins simply according to the pictures which are stamped on them. A people which has not had its own national money or numismatics is regarded as backward, servile, nomadic, or uncivilized. We Armenians are proud to say that we have thousands of Armenian coins, which sometimes give us occasion for great joy, and sometimes, considering the gaps in their chronology, also saddens us, reminding us of the pathways that the enemy has trampled and passed through our land, and how long he has choked our independence.

Nevertheless, it is worth pointing out that despite the existence of many thousands of Armenian coins, Armenian numismatics is in a comparatively slow phase, resembling a barren field that is waiting for energetic workers. Presently, the number of Armenian coins is about 20,000 and is increasing at the rate of about 1000 per year¹⁰ from excavations, to be sold here and there. The sad thing is that very few Armenians are interested in owning Armenian coins, and across the world, barely ten people occupy themselves seriously with Armenian numismatics.

By Asbed H. M. DONABEDIAN
Translated by L. A. SARYAN, Ph.D.

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

- 1 CENTRAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA. Hayastani Hanrapetut'ian dramnishneri p'okhanakman ev artapatkerman kanonnere [Rules of Exchange and Reproduction of Bank Notes of Armenian Republic] - Հայաստանի Հանրապետության դրամանիշների փոխանակման եւ արտապատկերման կանոնները. [Yerevan: 2008 or 2009] 15 pp. illus. In Armenian.

The publication of the Central Bank of the Republic of Armenia specifies the rules of exchange of damaged or worn out bank notes, coins, and commemorative coins which have been in circulation. Also, the publication summarizes the rules pertaining to the reproduction of money. YTN

Հայաստանի Հանրապետության կենտրոնական բանկի հրաաարակութիւնը կը սահմանէ փոխանակման կանոնները չրջանառութեան մէջ թողարկուած թղթադրամներու, մետաղադրամներու եւ

⁹ [A few paragraphs above, the author states that the paper currency of the first Republic circulated for three months. As before, he is referring to the three artistic notes which entered circulation shortly before the collapse of the independent government in December, 1920. LAS]

¹⁰ [These figures were approximately valid when the text was written in 1967. LAS]

յուշադրամներու վնասուած կամ մաշած ըլլալու դէպքին: Ինչպէս նաև հրատարակութիւնը կ'ամփոփէ օրէնքներ զովագրի համար արտապատկերման միջոցին:

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- 2 HOOVER, Oliver D. The Silver Mint of Damascus Under demetrius III and Antiochus XII (97/6 B.C. - 83/2 B.C.), by Oliver D. Hoover, Arthur Houghton, and Petr Vesel'ý. *American Journal of Numismatics*, Second Series, Vol. 20 (2008), pp. 305-336, pls. 71-80, pages relating to Armenia, 307 and 314.

The authors present a die study with historical, iconographic, numismatic, and statistical analysis for the silver coinages struck at Damascus under the Seleucid kings Demetrius III and Antiochus XII. Mention is made that Tigranes II occupied the city of Damascus and struck silver tetradrachms dated Seleucid Era 241 to 243. The illustrated tetradrachm displays the Tyche of Antioch and not of Damascus.

YTN

Հեղինակները կ'ընծայեն կաղապարներու ուսումնասիրութիւն մը և պատկերազարկան, դրամագիտական ու վիճակազարկան վերլուծումներ Դեմետրիոս Գ-ի և Անտիոքոս ԺԲ-ի արծաթ դրամներուն համար հատուած Դամասկոսի մէջ: Յիշուած է թէ Տիգրան Բ. Դամասկոս քաղաքը դրանց ու հատանց արծաթեայ չորեքդրամեաներ, թուադրուած՝ սեկւկեան տոմարակալութեամբ 241-էն մինչև 243: Պատկերուած չորեքդրամեանը կերտուած է Անտիոքի դիցուհիին նկարով, և ոչ թէ Դամասկոսինով:

ԵԹՆ

- 3 ISHKANIAN, Hagop. *Works: 1962-2008*, by Hagop Ishkanian. Pasadena, California: 2008, 160 pp., illus. in black and white and color. Prefaces by Stephen Nowlin and Saro Sarukhanyan. Ishkanian's album encompasses nearly 50 years of his labor of love, consisting of sculptures and envelopes. His catalogued sculptures and paintings, executed in Armenia and the United States, include more than one hundred creations. Many of them are such that they pull you like the force of gravitation, once you have seen them, you would like to go and observe them again. One of his early sculptures, "Tsoghik" (portrait of a young woman, 1965, 10 inches basalt), is a gold medal winner. A Japanese sculptor and scholar, visiting the National Art Gallery of Armenia, observing Ishkanian's sculpture titled "Peace for a Child" or "Birth" (a standing woman who holds a newly born baby on her left arm, 1971, 50 inches Bronze), has said, "This artist has not sculpted a goddess; but he has deified the female form. ..." Many of his envelopes are first day covers, and include his paintings reflecting the theme of stamps and his interpretation. One of these displays the picture of a grazing horse above a 1996 "Chess Olympiad" commemorative coin picture; underneath of all inscribed, TITPANOV. In the biographical section of his album, Hagop Ishkanian concludes that life without creating is meaningless.

YTN

Իշխանեանին ալբոմը կը պարփակէ մօտաւորապէս իր 50 տարուան բանասիրութիւնները, բաղկացած՝ քանդակագործութիւններէ ու պահարաններէ: Իր դասաւորուած քանդակագործութիւնները ու նկարները, կերտուած՝ Հայաստանի ու Միացեալ Նահանգներու մէջ, կը պարունակեն աւելի քան մէկ հարիւր ստեղծագործութիւններ: Մեծամասնութիւնը այնպէս է, որ քեզ կը քաշէ ձգողական ուժի պէս և անգամ մը որ զանոնք դիտած ես, պիտի փափաքէիք իրենց ու զանոնք նորէն դիտել իր վաղադոյն քանդակագործութիւններէն մին, «Յողիկ»՝ (մանկամարդ աղջնակի մը դիմանկարը, 1965, 10 ինչ բազալտ) արժանացած է ոսկեայ մեդալի: Ժափոնցի քանդակագործ բանասէր, այցելու մը՝ Հայաստանի Ազգային Պատկերասրահին մէջ դիտած է Իշխանեանին քանդակագործութիւնը անուանուած «Խաղաղութիւն մանուկի համար» կամ «Մոռնոյ» (կանգնած Երիտասարդ կին մը՝ բռնած նորածին մանուկ մը իր ձախ թևին վրայ, 1971, 50 ինչ բրոնզէ) և բաց է, «Այս քանդակագործը աստուածուհի չի քանդակել, բայց կարողացել է աստուածացանել ...» Իր պահարաններուն մեծ մասը առաջին օրուայ ծրարներ են ու կը պարունակեն իր նկարները, որոնք կ'առնալադրուին ծրարին վրայի նամականիչներով և կու տան իր մեկնաբանութիւնները: Ասոնցմէ մէկուն վրայ պատկերուած է արածող ձիու մը նկարը, 1996-ի «Շախմատի Ողիմպիական»ի յուշադրամին նկարին վերև: Բոլորին ներքեւ արձանագրուած՝ TITPANOV: Իր Ալբոմին կենսագրական բաժնին մէջ, Յակոբ Իշխանեան կ'ըզրակացէ, որ կեանքը անիմաստ է առանց ստեղծագործութեան:

ԵԹՆ

- 4 NOYAN TAPAN. Hayastanui Hanrapetut'ian Kentronakan Bankë t'ogharkel ë "Lev Eashin" artsat'ëw "Khoy" oskë hushadramner [The Central Bank of Republic of Armenia Has Issued Silver "Lev Yashin" and Gold "Aries" Commemorative Coins] - Հայաստանի Հանրապետության Կենտրոնական Բանկը թողարկել է «Լևե Եաշին» արծաթի և «Խոյ» ոսկե յուշադրամներ. *New Armenia Daily*, Vol. XVIII (23 January 2009), No. 11, p. 8. In Armenian.

The "Lev yashin" and "Aries" commemorative coins are described. The obverse of Lev yashin coin has, "KINGS OF FOOTBALL" inscription, crown held by two lions, football, 100 Dram, the coat of arms of the Republic of Armenia, the year of issue, "20" at the left and "08" at the right, and in Armenian and English, "REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA" inscriptions. The reverse has the portrait of Lev yashin against the background of Soviet Union flag, football, and "LEV YASHIN" inscription. The silver proof coin is 925 carat, 28.28 grams weight, 38.61 mm diameter. The obverse of "Aries" commemorative coin has the coat of arms of the Republic of Armenia, 10000 and in English and Armenian, Dram inscriptions, and the date 2009. The field is divided into 12 sectors displaying symbolic signs, around the edge, in Armenian and English, "REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA" inscriptions. The reverse displays, against the heaven covered with stars, the picture of Aries. Inscribed in Latin "ARIES" and in Russian, "OVEN." The inscribed of 900 carat gold is value is 10000 dram, 8.6 grams weight, and 22 mm diameter. YTN

Նկարագրուած են «Լև Եաշին»-ի ու «Խոյ»-ի յուշադրամները: Լև Եաշինի դրամին երեսին արձանագրուած է «KINGS OF FOOTBALL», առկայ է թագ, որ կը պահպանուի երկու առևճնեցողով, ֆուտբոլ, 100 Դրամ, Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան դինանշանը, թողարկման տարեթիւը, «20» ձախին ու «08» աջին ու անգլերէն ու հայերէն «ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹԻՒՆ» արձանագրութիւնները: Կոնակը ունի Լև Եաշինի դիմանկարը Խորհրդային Միութեան դրօշի ֆոնին վրայ, ֆուտբոլ և «ԼԵՒ ԵԱՇԻՆ» արձանագրութիւնը: Յղկուած արծաթեայ դրամը ունի 925 յարգ, 28.28 գրամ կշիռ և 38.61 մմ տրամագիծ: «Խոյ» յուշադրամի երեսը ունի Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան դինանշանը, 10000 և անգլերէնով ու հայերէնով «Դրամ» արձանագրութիւնները, ու թուականը՝ 2009: Դաշտը բաժնուած է 12 մասերու, ուր պատկերուած է կենդանակերպի խորհրդանշները, եզերքը, անգլերէն ու հայերէն, «ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹԻՒՆ» արձանագրութիւնները: Կոնակը, աստղային երկինքի ֆոնի վրայ է «Խոյ»-ի նշանը: Լատիներէն արձանագրուած է «ARIES» և ռուսերէն «Օվեն»։ Անուանական արժէքն է 10000 դրամ, ոսկեդրամին յարգը՝ 900, 8.6 գրամ կշիռ, և 22 մմ տրամագիծ: ԵԹՆ

- 5 SARYAN, Levon A. Fake Ancient Coins Abound on eBay, by Leon Saryan. *N.O.W. News*, Vol. 17 (Spring 2009), No. 1, pp. 221-22, illus.

A counterfeit silver coin of Tigranes the Great, auctioned on the internet, is described. The obverse of this fake coin portrays the bust of Tigranes; the reverse depicts Heracles standing left. The Heracles design is engraved on genuine bronzer coins of Tigranes, but not on silver coins. YTN

Նկարագրուած է, համացանցի վրայ վաճառուած, Տիգրան Մեծի արծաթեայ շինծու դրամ մը: Այս կեղծ դրամին երեսը ունի Տիգրանի կիսանդրին: Կոնակը կը պատկերացնէ վահագնը ձախ կանգնած: Վահագնի պատկերատիպը քանդակուած է Տիգրանի հարազատ բրոնզէ դրամներուն վրայ, բայց ոչ թէ արծաթ դրամներու վրայ: ԵԹՆ

- 6 STACK'S. *Moneti Imperii Romani Byzantini; The Coinage of the Late Roman Empire, the Eastern Roman Empire and Byzantium, and Their Successor States from the Germanic Invasions to the Russian Empire*. New York City: Stack's, 12 January 2009, pp. 132-137, Nos. 3467-3493, illustrated in color.

Description of the following Armenian coins are given: Armenia, principality of Lori, Kiurke II Curopalatus (1048-1100), copper follis; Cilician Armenia, the principate, Baron Roupen I (1080-1095), copper pogh;

Toros I (1100-1123), copper pogh; Toros II (1144-1168), copper pogh; Roupen II (1175-1187), copper pogh; Levon II (1187-1198), copper pogh; Cilician Armenia, the kingdom, Levon I (1198-1219), one-lion coronation tram, double tram, counterfeit tram; Hetoum I (1226-1270), Hetoum-Kaiqobad (1226-1236) bilingual tram, Hetoum-Kakhusrew (1236-1245) bilingual tram A.H. 637, Hetoum-Zabel tram, Hetoum I tank; Levon II (1270-1289), tram; Hetoum II (1289-1306), billon with patriarchal cross; Smpad (1296-1298), tram; Gosdantin I (1298-1299), tram and kardez; Levon III (1301-1307), Takvorin; Oshin (1308-1320), coronation tram; Levon IV (1320-1342), takvorin; Guy (1342-1344), takvorin; Gosdantin III (1344-1363), takvorin; Levon the Usurper (1363-1365), takvorin; Gosdantin IV (1365-1373), takvorin; Levon V (1374-1375), billon; post-Roupenian, a copper similar to takvorin dies with pseudo-Armenian legend. The coin illustrations are printed in color and actual size and twenty of them, 2 or 1.5 times enlarged. Also, weights and die axis orientations are published. YTN

Ընծայուած են հետեւի հայկական դրամներու նկարադրութիւնները:– Լուիի իշխանութենէն Կորիկէ Կորապարտի (1048-1100) պղնձեայ դրամ. Կիլիկիեան Հայաստան, իշխանութիւն՝ Պարոն Ռուբէն Ա (1080-1095), պղնձեայ փող. Պարոն թորոս Ա (1100-1123), պղնձեայ փող. Պարոն թորոս Բ (1144-1168), պղնձեայ փող. Պարոն Ռուբէն Բ (1175-1187), պղնձեայ փող. Կիլիկիեան Հայաստան, թագաւորութիւն՝ Լևոն Ա (1198-1219), մէկ առիւծով օծման դրամ, երկդրամ, կեղծ դրամ. Հեթում Ա (1226-1270), Հեթում-Քալիստիան (1228-1236) երկկողմեան դրամ, Հեթում-Քալիստիան (1238-1243) երկկողմեան դրամ Հ. 637, Հեթում-Ջալէլի դրամ ու Հեթում Ա-ի դանդ. Լևոն Բ (1270-1289), դրամ. Հեթում Բ (1289-1306), բիլլոն հայրապետական խաչով. Սմբատ (1296-1298), դրամ. Կոստանդին Ա (1298-1299), դրամ և քարտէջ. Լևոն Գ (1301-1307), թաղուորին. Օշին (1308-1320), օծման դրամ. Լևոն Դ (1320-1342), թաղուորին. Կի (1342-1344), թաղուորին. Կոստանդին Գ (1344-1363), թագուորին. Լևոն Բռնակալ (1363-1365), Բագուորին. Կոստանդին Դ (1365-1373), թագուորին. Լևոն Ե (1374-1375), բիլլոն. յետ Ռուբենեան պիլինձ կեղծ հայերէն տաւերով: Հրատարակուած են դրամներու գումարն նկարները իսկական մեծութեան հաւասար, ինչպէս նաև քսան հատին նկարները՝ 2 կամ 1.5 անգամ մեծութեամբ: Նաև հրատարակուած են կշիռներն ու առանձնային ուղղութիւնները: ԵԹՅ

7 TEKIN, Oğuz. APK kontrmarkli Tigranes sikkeleri [Tigranes Coins with APK Countermarks], by Oğuz Tekin. *Muhibbe Darga Armağanı*, Editors Taner Tarham, Aksel Tibet, and Erkan Konyar, Sadberk Hanim Müzesi, (2008), pp. 505-510. In Turkish.

Tekin notes all numismatic literatures composed on this subject by H. Seyrig (1955), P. Bedoukian (1978), C. Foss (1986), Y. Nercessian (1991, 1995), Y. Nercessian and L. Saryan (1996), O. Tekin (1992), and T. Gökyildirim (2005). The author discusses the bronze coins of Tigranes with APK countermark (on the reverse) where king's head is facing left, with a tree on the reverse. Additionally, he notes that some examples have IÇ field letters, which could possibly place the coins within the regnal years of Tigranes I. He also reviews the discussions and conclusions of authors who have penned essays on these types of coins. YTN

Թէքին կը լիշէ բոլոր դրամագիտական գրականութիւնները, շարահիւսած՝ Հ. Սէյրիգ (1955), Կ. Զոսա (1986), Ե. Ներսէսեան (1991, 1995), Ե. Ներսէսեան և Լ. Սարեան (1996), Օ. Թէքին (1992), Թ. Գոյկիլժիրմ (2005): Հեղինակը կը քննարկէ Տիգրանի բրոնզէ դրամները կրկնադուշմուած ԹՄ տաւերով (երեսին վրայ), որու երեսին վրայ թագաւորին պոլսիլ ձախ ուղղուած է, ետին՝ ծառ մը: Յաւելեալ կերպով ինք կը նշէ ԼՇ դաշտի տաւերը, որոնք հաւանաբար կրնան տեղադրել դրամը Տիգրան Ա-ի դահակաւութեան շրջանին: Հեղինակը կը խօսի նաև բոլոր այն հեղինակներու քննարկումներուն ու եզրակացութիւններուն մասին, որոնք աշխատանքներ շարահիւսած են այս տիպի դրամներուն վրայ: ԵԹՅ

NGC ANCIENTS GRADES ARMENIAN RARITY

Sarasota, Florida -- A Box of "old coins" purchased for \$28.25 at an estate sale near Burlington, Vermont, held an unexpected surprise: its contents are estimated to be worth more than \$15,000 because it included one of the most important Armenian coins in existence.

It was Richard Martineit's good fortune to be at that auction in October, 2007, where more than 1500 lots were sold in two days. One that caught his eye was lot 1597, a group of 13 coins in a box labeled "Roman & Ancient pieces." It contained a variety of silver and base metal coins issued from the 3rd Century B.C. to the 11th Century A.D. Highlights included a Roman silver denarius of 41 B.C. with the portraits of warlords Marc Antony and Octavian, and three coins struck by Greek and Roman rulers of Egypt.

Seeking proper identifications and grading, Martineit sent his coins to NGC Ancients, a branch of the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation (NGC) dedicated to coins of the ancient world. On his submission form, the last three coins were described by the submitter as issues of the Byzantine Empire. Each had an image of Christ on the obverse and an inscription on the reverse. It was soon discovered that only two of them were Byzantine, and one in fact was Armenian.

The prize coin was an Armenian bronze follis of "Kiurike the Kouropalates" from the 10th or 11th Century A.D. Modeled after contemporary coins of the Byzantine Empire, it belongs to the first coinage with Armenian inscriptions. Martineit's example is perhaps the finest of the 19 known, and its inscription has an unusual arrangement that until now may not have been documented.

"Even though I owned that box lot for 15 months I never looked at the three coins I identified as Byzantine until I mailed them to NGC," Martineit says. "In fact, I bought the lot for the other coins and I was not going to send in those three coins until I realized I could never find a value for them until I knew what they were. So I added them to the submission at the last minute."

As it turns out, one of these three coins was a hidden treasure.

"At first glance it appeared to be an ordinary Byzantine bronze," says David Vagi, director of NGC Ancients, "but when I turned it over I knew it was something I had never handled before." Vagi consulted with Robert W. Hoge, a curator at the American Numismatic Society, who confirmed its importance.

Martineit was overwhelmed when he got the news: "To say the least, David made my day with his phone call," he says. "I cannot tell you how happy I am about this stroke of luck. I feel like a kid who just got the greatest train set in the world and cannot stop playing with it. NGC's service went light years beyond anything I ever expected."

Without proper identification, the Armenian coin might have remained unknown until it entered the marketplace as an ordinary Byzantine coin, valued at perhaps \$50. "This is the kind of thing you expect to see on *Antiques Roadshow* – a discovery that makes what we do so rewarding. We normally do not grade Medieval Armenian coins, but this case was so unusual that we made an exception," Vagi added.

Originally, the surface of the coin was partly covered with encrustation. David Hendin, an expert in coin conservation, was enlisted as an outside consultant to help reveal the full detail of the coin. Conservation was especially important since the coin was a condition rarity, and the inscription needed to be fully visible.



The precise attribution of the coin is debated since it contains no indication of date or mint. Authorities generally agree that it is from Lori, a region in northeastern Greater Armenia, and that it likely was struck in the city of Tashir.

The inscription, which is the earliest appearance of Armenian language on a coin, translates to "Jesus Christ // May God aid Kiurike the Kouropalates (ՅՄ-ՔՍ // ՏՐ ՈԳ / ՆԷ ԿՈՐԻԿ / ԷԻ ԿՈՐԱ / ՊԱՂԱ / ՏԻՆ)," and shows that the issuer claimed the title Kouropalates ("charge of the palace"), a rank awarded by Byzantine emperors to vassal rulers of Armenia. However, scholars are sharply divided over which Kiurike issued the coin, some preferring the dynast Kiurike I (c. A.D. 979-989) and others his grandson Kiurike II (c. A.D. 1048-1100).

For more information about NGC Ancients, visit www.ngccoin.com/ancients online. NGC Ancients can be contacted at 1-800-NGC-COIN (642-2646) or by email at ancients@ngccoin.com.

NUMISMATIC GUARANTY CORPORATION

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June 2010

ԿՈՉ	APPEAL
<p>Յարգելի բարեկամներ,</p> <p>Նախ կ'ուզեմ շնորհակալություն յայտնել ձեր սատարած աջակցության համար, պոր ընծայած էք դեպի Հայ Դրամագիտական Հնվերակցությունը և իր հրատարակությունները:</p> <p>Ինչպես որ ձեզի ծանօթ է, մեր դրամական օժանդակության աղբյուրը եղած է Կապմա-կերպության անդամները և իր հրատարակությունը վաճառքը:</p> <p>Այս տնտեսական ճգնաժամի օրերուն մեր կապմալերությունը պերծ չէ մնացած դրամական խնդիրներէն: Մեր նուիրատուութիւնները նուազած են ու մեր գիրքերու վաճառքը գրեթէ դադրած է: Ներկայիս Կապմալերությունը չծրագրեր նոր հրատարակություններ: Մեր տնտեսական կացութիւնը այս չարտօներ:</p> <p>Սակայն Հայ Դրամագիտական Հանդէսը պէտք է որ հրատարակուի ու բաշխուի:</p> <p>Մեր բազմագրման մեքենան հիմքած է ու վերջին տարուան ընթացքին նորոգուած է բազմաթիւ անգամներ:</p> <p>Մեր բազմագրման մեքենաները շինող ընկերության նախագահը բացատրեց, թէ մեր լուսագոյն ընտրանքը պիտի ըլլայ գնել այլ մեքենայ մը, վերաշինուած կամ նոր: Իրենց հետ մենք տարեկան պայմանագրութիւն ունինք մեր մեքենան նորոգելու համար: Բայց նորոգելը ջահեկան չէ եղած դրամի պատճառով. նոյն իսկ նորոգելէ նոր տպագրութեան որակը վաւորացած է:</p> <p>Այսօր, ես կոչ կ'ուղեմ ձեզի վերանմանօրէն օգնելու մեզի, որ ձեր նուիրատուութիւններով կարողանանք գնել նոր բազմագրութեան մեքենայ մը:</p> <p>Մեր Հանդէսը պէտք է հրատարակուի երեք ամիս անգամ մը: Զայն որակաւոր ու բազմագրուած տպելու համար պէտք ունինք տոկոս մեքենայի մը:</p> <p>Վստահ եմ որ շնորհիւ մեր անդամներու վերանման աջակցութեան շուտով այս խնդիրը պիտի ունենայ իր յաջող աւարտը: Եւծն</p>	<p>Dear Friends:</p> <p>First I would like to thank our members and friends for the continued support of the Armenian Numismatic Society and its publications.</p> <p>As you know, our source of financial support has been the Society membership, and sale of our publications.</p> <p>During this period of economic crisis your Society has not been immune to the financial problems that other organizations have faced. Our donations have declined and sale of our books have practically come to a halt. Naturally, the Society has no plans to publish any kind of book in the near future. Our finances do not permit.</p> <p>However, the <i>Armenian Numismatic Journal</i> needs to be printed and distributed as required.</p> <p>Our photocopying machine has aged and has been repaired several times during the last calendar year.</p> <p>Our copy machine manufacturer's company president explained that our best alternative would be purchasing another machine, new or refurbished. We have an annual "service contract" to have it repaired. But, having it repaired continuously has been counterproductive economically; even with these repairs, printing quality has been poor.</p> <p>Today, I call on you to help us with your generous donations to face this problem so that we may purchase a new photocopying machine.</p> <p>Our <i>Journal</i> needs to be published every three months. In order to print it, we need to have reliable means to produce in quality and quantity.</p> <p>I am confident that with the support of our membership this problem will be successfully resolved. YTN</p>

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Armenia's Central Bank Introduces 100,000 Dram Banknote

YEREVAN (RFE/RL) -- A representative of Armenia's Central Bank (CB) has ruled out that the introduction of a 100,000 dram banknote on Monday increases inflation risks or forestalls an imminent devaluation of the national currency in Armenia.

CB Board member Vakhtang Abrahamian told RFE/RL that regulatory specialists had studied the issue and concluded that the introduction of this large banknote, equivalent to roughly \$265, does not threaten any major devaluation of the national currency.

Until now, a 50,000 dram bill was Armenia's highest face value banknote. "This [new] banknote, according to our estimations, will take only 3 percent in cash circulation on the market, which cannot have any significant impact on the economy in terms of the value of the national currency or any inflation risks," said Abrahamian.

Abrahamian said CB experts had studied the experience of a number of countries, such as Lithuania, where the highest nominal value of a banknote is equivalent to 1,000 Euros (approx. \$1,433). "This experience shows that on the contrary it facilitates large transactions and avoids situations where large transactions are carried out with the use of foreign currencies," he added.

Meanwhile, economist Vahagn Khachatryan, who represents the main opposition Armenian National Congress (HAK), regarded the move as a sign of a possible depreciation of the Armenian currency. "It is an accepted practice in all countries that banknotes of a higher nominal value are printed when devaluation takes place," Khachatryan said in an interview with RFE/RL.

Meanwhile, former CB chairman Bagrat Asatryan also ruled out that the introduction of 100,000 dram banknotes would have any impact on the value of the Armenian currency. He said it would only alter the structure of the money supply rather than expand it.

"I think there is also something positive here, and eventually, large banknotes are also a means to combat dollarization," said Asatryan.

The new multicolor note features ancient Armenian king Abgar V, and measures 160 x 72 mm. It carries several innovative security features to prevent counterfeiting. It was placed into circulation on August 24, 2009.

Submitted by L. Saryan

METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.)

(Section 4)

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

Cornucopia to Right

No f/l

2 Chalci

1	93	4.16g-15ø	EJ26
2	104	3.98g-16.5ø-12h	HM
3	104	3.96g-17ø-12h	HM

Avg. = $12.10+3 = 4.03$ g weight

Avg. = $48.5+3 = 16.17$ mm diameter

Avg. = 2/12h (2) die axis orientation

1 Chalcus

4	104	3.59g-16ø-12h	AC&B17-45/1
5	93	3.44g-15ø-12h	TG346
6	93	3.27g-17ø-12h	TG345
7	---	2.81g-15.3ø-12h	Er19585/44
8	---	2.80g-14.9ø-1h	Er19585/22
9	104	2.78g	HAC95
10	93	2.74g-16ø-12h	TG343
11	93	2.68g-14ø-12h	TG350
12	93	2.59g-15ø-12h	TG347
13	93	2.50g-16ø-12h	TG344
14	104-6	2.50g-15ø-12h	JN83HT
15	93	2.43g-14ø-12h	TG348
16	104-6	2.10g-13ø-1h	JN88MaB
17	104-6	2.00g-14ø-12h	JN89Cilcia
18	---	1.95g-14.8ø-12h	Er19648/110

Avg. = $40.18+15 = 2.68$ g weight

Avg. = $210.0+14 = 15.27$ mm diameter

Avg. = 12/12h, 2/1h (14) die axis orient.

1/2 Chalculus

19	93	1.90g-14ø-1h	TG351
20	---	1.79g-16.7ø-12h	Er19648/33
21	93	1.75g-15ø-12h	TG368
22	93	1.47g-14ø-12h	TG349
23	104	1.41g-1h	HAC88

Avg. = $8.32+5 = 1.67$ g weight

Avg. = $59.7+4 = 14.93$ mm diameter

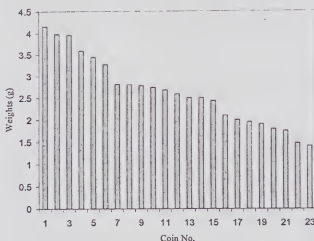
Avg. = 3/12h, 2/1h (5) die axis orient.

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

Tot.Avg. = $60.60+23 = 3.29$ g weight

Tot.Avg. = $318.2+21 = 15.15$ mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 17/12h, 4/1h (21) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.35, Cornucopia to R, no field letters

o/s

2 Chalci

1	104	5.58g-17ø-1h	YNCat158
2	93	3.87g-11ø	o/s-c/m106LS

Avg. = $9.45+2 = 4.73$ g weight

Avg. = $28+2 = 14.00$ mm diameter

Avg. = 1/1h (1) die axis orientation

1 Chalcus

3	93	3.32g-15ø	o/s-c/m109LS
4	93	3.06g-19ø-12h	YNCat180
5	93	2.94g-17ø-12h	TG352
6	---	2.90g	Unpub2PB

Avg. = $12.22+3 = 3.06$ g weight

Avg. = $51+3 = 17.00$ mm diameter

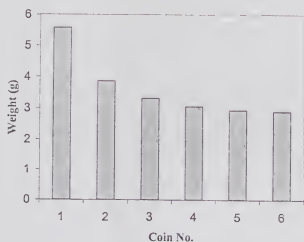
Avg. = 2/12h (2) die axis orientation

Tot.Avg. = $21.67+6 = 3.61$ g weight

Tot.Avg. = $79+5 = 16.52$ mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 2/12h, 1/1h (3) die axis orient.

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Ch. 2.36, Cornucopia to R, overstruck

f/1 A

2 Chalci

1	104v	4.94g-16ø-12h	YNCat159
2	104	3.92g	CAA104TD

Avg. = $8.86 \div 2 = 4.43$ g weight

Avg. = 16mm diameter

Avg. = 1/12h (1) die axis orientation

1 Chalcus

3	104	3.59g-16ø-12h	AC&B17-45
4	104	3.49g	CAA104PB
5	104	3.37g	CAA104PB
6	104	3.16g	CAA104MB
7	104	3.12g	CAA104PB
8	---	3.06g	Gorny170-1517
9	104	2.98g	CAA104PB
10	104	2.91g	CAA104PB
11	104	2.83g	CAA104PB
12	104	2.61g	CAA104TD
13	104	2.52g-16ø-12h	AC&B17-4517
14	104	2.51g	CAA104PB
15	104	2.44g	CAA104BM
16	104	2.20g	CAA104TD
17	104	2.18g-13ø-12h	ÆHoard53
18	104	2.15g	CNG27-15
19	104v	2.07g-14ø-12h	YNCat163
20	104	2.03g	CAA104TD
21	104	1.90g	CAA104JG

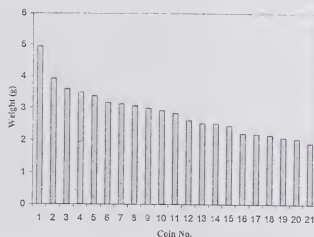
No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Avg. = $51.12 \div 19 = 2.69$ g weightAvg. = $59 \div 4 = 14.75$ mm diameter

Avg. = 4/12h (4) die axis orientation

Tot.Avg. = $59.98 \div 21 = 2.86$ g weightTot.Avg. = $75 \div 5 = 15.00$ mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 5/12h (5) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.37, Cornucopia to R, field letter "A"

f/1 $\overline{\Gamma}$ /A or T,A; A/ $\overline{\Gamma}$ or A/T2 Chalci

1	93	4.97g-17ø-12h	TG354
2	93	4.29g-17ø-12h	TG353
3	104	3.93g-15ø-11h	HM
4	104v	3.85g-12h	MD87Brussels

Avg. = $17.04 \div 4 = 4.26$ g weightAvg. = $49 \div 3 = 16.33$ mm diameter

Avg. = 1/11h, 3/12h (4) die axis orient.

1 Chalcus

5	93	3.75g-14ø-1h	TG366
6	93	3.74g-15ø-1h	TG355
7	93	3.73g-14ø-12h	TG361
8	104v	3.65g	MD87Jacquier
9	93	3.60g-18ø-12h	TG363
10	93	3.56g-17ø-12h	TG357
11	104v	3.51g-12h	MD87Brussels
12	104	3.45g-14ø	CNG36-577
13	93	3.44g-16ø-12h	TG367
14	104	3.39g-14ø	Foss67
15	93	3.30g-15ø-12h	TG362

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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1 Chalcus

16	93	3.28g-17ø-12h	TG356
17	104v	3.25g-16.2ø-11h	HM
18	93	3.23g-15ø-12h	TG359
19	104	3.18g-15ø-12h	HM
20	94	3.11g-13ø-12h	YNCat160
21	94	3.08g-14ø-12h	YNCat161
22	94	3.02g-15ø-12h	YNCat162
23	104v	2.99g-12h	MD87BN
24	104-6	2.90g-16ø-11h	JN79MaB
25	93	2.98g-14ø-12h	TG358
26	104v	2.86g-12h	MD87Brussels
27	94	2.82g-15ø	MA26
28	104v	2.81g	Gorny50-404
29	93	2.75g-14ø-12h	TG365
30	93	2.74g-14ø	MA25
31	104	2.66g	Gorny165-1391
32	93	2.64g-15ø-12h	TG364
33	104-6	2.60g-14.5ø-1h	JN81Cilicia
34	93	2.57g-16ø-12h	TG360
35	104v	2.57g	MD87Numismatic
36	104v	2.52g-1h	HAC90
37	104v	2.36g	CNG20-386
38	94	2.35g-14ø	CNG46-676
39	104v	2.29g-12h	Lanz28-327
40	104v	2.21g-13.8ø-1h	HM
41	---	2.10g-13.2ø-1h	Er19031/6
42	94	2.10g-14ø-11h	AC&B31-6
43	104	1.98g-13ø	Foss68
44	104-6	1.90g-11h	HACII-24
45	104-6	1.90g-13.5ø-1h	JN90MaB
46	104	1.78g-11ø	Foss69

Avg. = 120.65+42 = 2.87g weight

Avg. = 453.2+31 = 14.62mm diameter

Avg. = 4/11h, 19/12h, 7/1h (30) die axis orientation

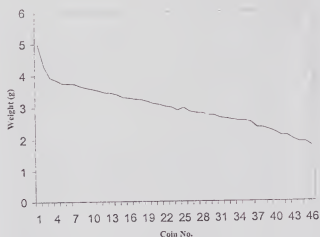
Tot.Avg. = 137.69+46 = 2.99g weight

Tot.Avg. = 502.2+34 = 14.77mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 5/11h, 22/12h, 7/1h, 2/2h

(36) die axis orientation

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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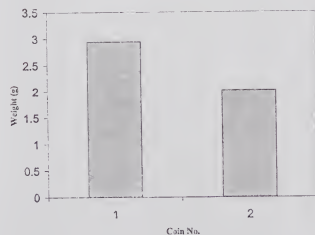
Ch. 2.38, Cornucopia to $\overline{\text{P}}$ /A or T.A;
A/ $\overline{\text{P}}$ or A/T**Cornucopia to Right
Inscription Variety**2 Chalcu

1	---	2.94g-13ø-12h	Er19184/4
2	---	2.02g-16.7ø-12h	Er19585/13

Tot.Avg. = 4.98+2 = 2.48g weight

Tot.Avg. = 29.7+2 = 14.85mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 2/12h (2) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.39, Cornucopia to R, inser. variety

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Cornucopia to Left

No f/l

2 Chalci

1	95	5.15g-16ø-12h	TG314
2	104-6	5.00g-17.5ø-12h	JN77MaB
3	105	4.74g-16ø	AC&B18-26
4	95	4.61g-16ø-12h	YNCat164
5	95	4.61g-16ø	EJ28
6	105	4.54g-16.7ø-12h	HM
7	95	4.33g-18ø-12h	TG317
8	95	4.20g-15ø-12h	AC&B31-7
9	105	4.08g-15ø-12h	Lanz 144-291
10	95	4.03g-15ø-12h	TG323
11	105	3.91g-1h	HAC101
12	105	3.89g-16ø-12h	YNCat165

Avg. = 53.09+12 = 4.42g weight

Avg. = 177.2+11 = 16.11mm diameter

Avg. = 9/12h, 1/1h (10) die axis orient.

1 Chalcus

13	105	3.68g	LindIII964
14	106v	3.61g-16.5ø	AC&B15-16
15	95	3.31g-15ø-12h	TG315
16	105	3.25g-14ø	AC&B19-28
17	105	3.24g-14ø-11h	YNCat166
18	95	3.23g-15ø-12h	TG324
19	105	3.21g	HAC100
20	105	3.19g-11h	HAC98
21	105	3.19g-11h	HAC99
22	105	3.18g-14.8ø-12h	HM
23	96	3.16g-14ø	AC&B18-27
24	95	3.09g-14ø-12h	TG321
25	104-6	3.00g-14ø-12h	JN78MaB
26	104-6	2.90g-15ø-1h	JN80MaB
27	---	2.91g-15.6ø-1h	Er19031/7
28	95	2.86g-15ø-12h	TG320
29	105	2.85g-14ø-11h	YNCat170
30	105	2.82g	HAC97
31	105	2.79g-12h	HAC96
32	105	2.78g-6h	HAC94
33	105	2.77g-15ø	AC&B19-27
34	95	2.70g-13ø-12h	TG328
35	105	2.68g-2h	HAC92
36	105	2.68g-12h	HAC93
37	104-6	2.60g-13.5ø-1h	JN82MaB

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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38	96	2.59g-15ø-11h	AC&B31-8
39	105	2.59g	HAC91
40	95	2.57g-14ø-12h	TG319
41	95	2.47g-15ø-12h	TG318
42	105	2.46g-15ø	SNC'92June3343
43	105	2.45g-13.3ø-1h	HM
44	---	2.43g-14.9ø-1h	Er19303/51
45	105	2.42g-15ø-1h	YNCat172
46	95	2.40g-16ø-12h	TG325
47	104-6	2.40g-14ø-1h	JN84MaB
48	105v	2.39g-14ø	CNG36-578
49	105	2.36g-12h	HAC89
50	105	2.35g-14.5ø-12h	CT38
51	95	2.35g-14ø-12h	TG316
52	96	2.34g-13ø	EJ29
53	105	2.32g-14ø	AC&B16A-166
54	106v	2.24g-15ø-12h	AC&B21-7
55	104-6	2.20g-1h	HACII-25
56	104-6	2.20g-14.5ø-11h	JN85HT
57	104-6	2.20g-13.5ø-1h	JN86MaB
58	---	2.19g-15.6ø-12h	Er19035/23
59	106	2.19g-15ø	AC&B19-30
60	95	2.19g-14ø-12h	TG322
61	---	2.15g-14.8ø-11h	Er19585/40
62	95	2.15g-15ø-12h	TG326
63	105	2.07g-16ø-1h	HM
64	95	2.07g-14ø-12h	TG329
65	95	2.03g-14ø-12h	TG330
66	95	1.94g-15ø-1h	TG327

Avg. = 142.39+54 = 2.64g weight

Avg. = 595.5+41 = 14.52mm diameter

Avg. = 7/11h, 21/12h, 11/1h, 1/2h,
1/6h (41) die axis orientation1/2 Chalcus

67	105	1.79g-14ø	CNG51-760
68	---	1.63g-14.9ø-1h	Er19585/41
69	105	1.57g-13ø	AC&B11-15
70	105	1.52g-13ø	AC&B19-29
71	105	1.26g-12.5ø	SNC'91Dec.7886

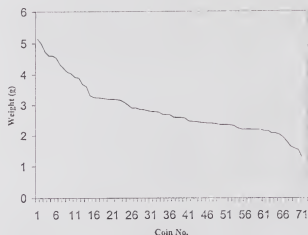
Avg. = 7.77+5 = 1.55g weight

Avg. = 67.4+5 = 13.48mm diameter

Avg. = 1/1h (1) die axis orientation

No. CAA Metrological Data Source
ACV wt.-diam.-die axis

Tot.Avg. = 203.25+71 = 2.86g weight
Tot.Avg. = 840.1+57 = 14.74mm diameter
Tot.Avg. = 7/11h, 30/12h, 13/1h, 1/2h,
1/6h (52) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.40, Cornucopia to L, no field letters

In Exergue f/l A; ΔH; ΔH/A or A/ΔH

2 Chalci

1 105-6 4.11g MD47MM
Avg. = 4.11g weight

1 Chalcus

2 105-6 3.74g MD47Lanz
3 105-6 3.59g-12h MD47Brussels
4 106v 3.48g CNG20-387
5 104-6 3.41g-10h HACII24
6 105 3.21g CAA105TD
7 105 3.16g-150-11h YNCat167
8 105 3.16g-150-12h AEHoard55
9 106 3.16g NJ456
10 105-6 3.15g MD47Peus
11 95 3.08g-150-12h YNCat168
12 105 3.08g-150-12h AEHoard56
13 105-6 3.08g MD47ANS
14 105-6 2.98g-12h MD47Brussels
15 105 2.97g-140-1h YNCat169
16 06 2.97g-160-1h CNG82-683
17 105-6 2.96g MD47Aufhäuser
18 106 2.94g-140 Foss64
19 105 2.90g CAA105PB
20 105 2.83g-150-12h AEHoard57

No. CAA Metrological Data Source
ACV wt.-diam.-die axis

21 105-6 2.76g MD47Bar
22 95 2.73g-130-12h TG333
23 105 2.71g CAA105PB
24 105 2.70g CAA105PB
25 105-6 2.70g MD47GD
26 106v 2.69g-150-12h AC&B18-48
27 106 2.68g-130-1h Foss65
28 105 2.65g-130 Foss60
29 105 2.63g-150 ADTII-TIV10
30 105-6 2.59g MD47Elsen
31 106 2.58g CNG27-16
32 105 2.57g CS4-662
33 105-6 2.52g-12h MD47Brussels
34 105 2.51g SNSJerusalem8
35 105 2.43g-130 Foss61BM
36 105 2.40g MM12-761
37 105 2.40g CAA106WM
38 105-6 2.39g MD47ANS
39 105-6 2.39g MD47Noble
40 94 2.39g-140-12h AC&B31A-7
41 105 2.38g-130 Foss62
42 105 2.35g-120 ADTII-TIV12
43 105 2.35g-120 CNG36-579
44 105-6 2.32g MD47Aufhäuser
45 106 2.29g-150-12h AC&B17-45
46 105 2.24g-1450-12h HM
47 105 2.24g CAA105YN
48 105 2.20g CAA105JG
49 104 2.11g-150-12h AEHoard53
50 104-6 2.10g-170-2h JN87MaB
51 95 2.04g-130-1h TG334
52 105 1.98g-130-12h YNCat173
53 97 1.98g-130 EJ30
54 105 1.95g-150 ADTII-TIV11
55 106v 1.93g-150 Foss63
56 106 1.91g-130 Foss66

Avg. = 145.64+55 = 2.65g weight

Avg. = 395.5+28 = 14.13mm diameter

Avg. = 1/10h, 1/11h, 14/12h, 4/1h,
1/2h (21) die axis orientation

1/2 Chalcus

57 105 1.87g-13.10-9h HM
58 104-6 1.80g-150-11h JN91Cilicia
59 105v 1.75g-140-12h YNCat174

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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1/2 Chalcus

60	105-6	1.70g	MD47Auctiones
61	97	1.61g-13ø-12h	YNCat175
62	105	1.57g-12ø-1h	YNCat176

Avg. = 10.30+6 = 1.72g weight
 Avg. = 67.1+5 = 13.42mm diameter
 Avg. = 1/9h, 1/11h, 2/12h, 1/1h (5) die axis orientation

f/1 A/H or Δ/H

1 Chalcus

63	105	3.20g-14ø-12h	AC&B18-47
64	105	2.32g-13ø-12h	AC&B17-45

Avg. = 5.52+2 = 2.76g weight
 Avg. = 27+2 = 13.50mm diameter
 Avg. = 2/12h (2) die axis orientation

f/1 Δ

1 Chalcus

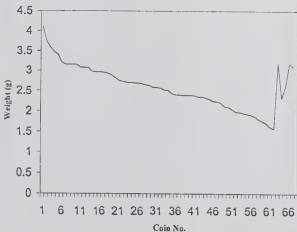
65	105	2.60g-15ø-12h	YNCat171
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Avg. = 2.60g weight
 Avg. = 15.00mm diameter
 Avg. = 1/12h (1) die axis orientation

f/1 A/AN

1 Chalcus

66	95	3.19g-16ø-12h	TG331
67	95	3.10g-16ø-1h	TG332



Ch. 2.41, Cornucopia L, A; ΔH; ΔH/A or A/ΔH

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Avg. = 6.29+2 = 3.15g weight
 Avg. = 32+2 = 16.00mm diameter
 Avg. = 1/12h, 1/1h (2) die axis orient.

Tot.Avg. = 174.46+67 = 2.60g weight
 Tot.Avg. = 536.6+38 = 14.12mm diameter
 Tot.Avg. = 1/9h, 1/10h, 2/11h, 20/12h, 6/1h, 1/2h (31) die axis orient.

f/1 ∇/A

2 Chalcus

1	96	4.61g-16ø	MA27
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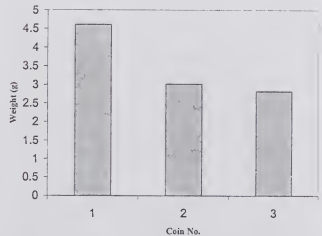
Avg. = 4.61g weight
 Avg. = 16mm diameter

1 Chalcus

2	106v	3.02g-15ø	AC&B12-9
3	96	2.82g-15ø	EJ27

Avg. = 5.84+2 = 2.92g weight
 Avg. = 30+2 = 15mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 10.45+3 = 3.48g weight
 Tot.Avg. = 46+3 = 15.33mm diameter



Ch. 2.42, Cornucopia to L, field letter

∇/A

**Cornucopia to Left
Inscription Variety**

2 Chalcus

1	98v	5.14g-17ø-12h	TG338
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No. CAA Metrological Data Source
ACV wt.-diam.-die axis

Avg. = 5.14g weight
Avg. = 17mm diameter
Avg. = 1/12h (1) die axis orientation

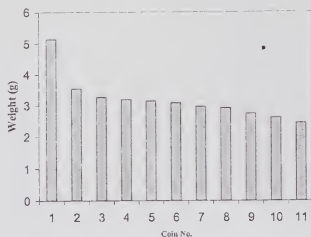
1 Chalcus

2	98	3.55g-14ø-12h	YNCat177
3	98v	3.27g-16ø-1h	TG342
4	98v	3.20g-16ø-12h	TG335
5	98v	3.15g-15ø-11h	YNCat178
6	98	3.09g-13ø-11h	YNCat179
7	98v	2.97g-16ø-12h	TG336
8	98v	2.92g-16ø-12h	TG337
9	98v	2.74g-13ø-12h	TG341
10	98v	2.61g-14ø-1h	TG339
11	98v	2.44g-12ø-12h	TG340

Avg. = $29.94 \div 10 = 2.99$ g weight
Avg. = $145 \div 10 = 14.5$ mm diameter
Avg. = 2/11h, 6/12h, 2/1h (10) die axis orientation

No. CAA Metrological Data Source
ACV wt.-diam.-die axis

Tot.Avg. = $35.08 \div 11 = 3.19$ g weight
Tot.Avg. = $162 \div 11 = 14.73$ mm diameter
Tot.Avg. = 2/11h, 7/12h, 2/1h (11) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.43, Cornucopia to L, inscr. variety

Table 2.10. Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of Tigranes II coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Avg Coin Weight
Cornucopia to Right, No f/l	23	3.29g
Cornucopia to Right, o/s	6	3.61g
Cornucopia to R, f/l "A"	21	2.86g
Cornucopia to R, f/l T.A	46	2.99g
Cornucop. to R, inscr. variety	2	2.48g
Cornucopia to Left, No f/l	71	2.86g
Cornucopia to Left, f/l ΔH/A	67	2.60g
Cornucopia to Left, f/l T/A	3	3.48g
Cornucop. to L, inscr. variety	11	3.19g
Total	250	

Table 2.11 Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Tigranes II coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Diameter
Cornucopia to Right, No f/l	21	15.15mm
Cornucopia to Right, o/s	5	16.52mm
Cornucopia to R, f/l "A"	5	15.00mm
Cornucopia to R, f/l T,A	34	14.77mm
Cornucop. to R, inscr. variety	2	14.85mm
Cornucopia to Left, No f/l	57	14.74mm
Cornucopia to Left, f/l ΔH/A	38	14.12mm
Cornucopia to Left, f/l T/A	3	15.33mm
Cornucop. to L, inscr. variety	11	14.73mm
Total	176	

Table 2.12, Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orient. of Tigranes II cop.

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
Cornucopia to Right, No f/l	21	17/12h, 4/1h
Cornucopia to Right, o/s	3	2/12h, 1/1h
Cornucopia to R, f/l "A"	5	5/12h
Cornucopia to R, f/l T,A	36	5/11h, 22/12h, 7/1h, 2/2h
Cornucop. to R, inscr. variety	2	2/12h
Cornucopia to Left, No f/l	52	7/11h, 30/12h, 13/1h, 1/2h, 1/6h
Cornucopia to Left, f/l ΔH/A	31	1/9h, 1/10h, 2/11h, 20/12h, 6/1h, 1/2h
Cornucopia to Left, f/l T/A	---	---
Cornucop. to L, inscr. variety	11	2/11h, 7/12h, 2/1h
Total	161	

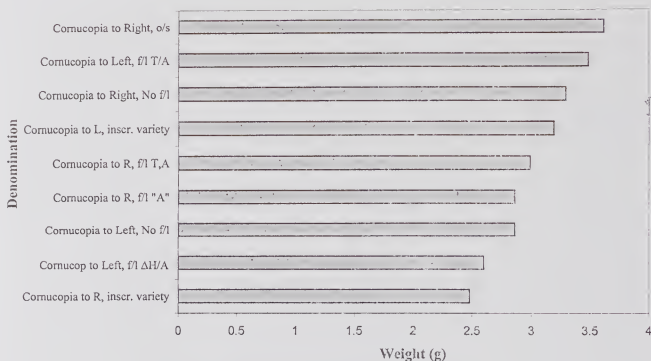


Chart 2.44. Average weights of Tigranes II copper coins (grams)

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

8 ARMENPRESS. Nor, hariwrhazaranots' t'ght'adramner Hayastani mēj [New One Hundred Thousand Dram Bank Notes In Armenia] - Նոր՝ հարիւրհազարանոց թղթադրամներ Հայաստանի մէջ. *Asbarez*, Vol. 101 (Wednesday, 26 August 2009), No. 13,574, illus. In Armenian.

On 24 August 2009, The Central bank of Armenia announced that it will issue 100,000 dram bank notes. The face of the note displays the Armenian King Abgarus VII [V]. YTN

24 Օգոստոս 2009 Հայաստանի կեդրոնական դրամատուռնը յայտարարած, թէ պիտի թողարկէ 100,000 դրամնոց թղթադրամ: Երեսին պիտի պատկերուած հայոց Արգաթ ի [Ե]: Թագաւորը: ԵԹՆ

9 ASBAREZ. Uk'ranioy mēj t'ogharkvats ē «Surb Khach'»in nvirvats hushadrem [A Commemorative Coin Dedicated to the "Holy Cross" is issued in Ukraine] - Ուքրանիոյ մէջ թողարկուած է «Սուրբ Խաչ»ին նուիրուած յուշադրամ *Asbarez*, Vol. 101 (Friday, 2 September 2009), No. 13582, p. 7, illus. In Armenian.

The national bank of Ukraine has issued a silver coin, in the "National architectural building" commemorative coin series, dedicated to the "Holy Cross" Armenian monastery built in the 14th century. YTN

Ուքրանիոյ ազգային դրամատուռնը թողարկած է արծաթեայ դրամ մը, «Ուքրանիոյ ճարտարապետական կառույցներ» յուշադրամներու շարքին մէջ, նուիրուած 14րդ դարու հայկական «Սուրբ Խաչ» վանքին: ԵԹՆ

10 KOVACS, Frank L. Tigranes IV, V, and VI: New Attributions, by Frank L. Kovacs.

American Journal of Numismatics, Second Series, Vol. 20 (2008), pp. 337-350, pls. 81-82.

Kovacs is proposing a new classification of bronze coins of later Artaxiad kings. His new attributions are departure from the traditional method. His extensive discussion is followed by a catalogue of 17 types of Armenian bronze coins of Artaxiad rulers. Tigranes IV, first reign (pro-Parthian, c. 8-5 B.C.), Nos. 1) horse left and foreleg raised, 2) forepart of a horse; Tigranes IV, second reign (pro-Roman) with Erato (c. 2 B.C.), No. 3) Tigranes/Augustus, No. 4) Tigranes/Erato, No. 5) Jugate Tigranes and Erato/Mount Ararat. Tigranes V (I, Herodian, A.D. c. 6-c.12), No. 6) Heracles standing left, No. 7) elephant walking right, No. 8) elephant walking left, No. 9) eagle standing right, No. 10) eagle standing left, No. 11) elephant's head left. Tigranes VI (II, Herodian) first reign (A.D. 60-62), No. 12) bipennis and club, No. 13) palm branch, Nos. 14 and 15) Nike standing right. Tigranes VI (II, Herodian), second reign (A.D. 66/67), Nos. 16 and 17) jugate heads of Tigranes and his queen/goddess seated left.

YTN

Քրոնակա կ'առաջարկէ նոր դասաւորում մը Արտաշէսեան վերջին թագաւորներու բրոնզէ դրամներուն համար: Իր նոր վերագրումները շեղում մըն է ընդունուած աւանդական մեթոտէն: Իր երկար քննարկութեան հետեւած է Արտաշէսեան հայ զահակաւորու 17 տեսակ բրոնզէ դրամներուն ցուցակագրութիւնը: Տիգրան Դ, առաջին իշխանութիւն (պարթևամէտ, շուրջ 8-5 Ն.Ք.), թիւ 1) ձի դիպի ձախ և առջևի ալ ոտը բարձրացած, թիւ 2) Ձիու առջևի մասը: Տիգրան Դ, երկրորդ իշխանութիւն (հռոմամէտ), Երատոյի հետ (շուրջ 2 Ն.Ք.), թիւ 3) Տիգրան/Աւգոստոս, թիւ 4) Տիգրան/Երատոյ, թիւ 5) զուգադրու Տիգրան և Երատոյ/Արարատ լեռը: Տիգրան Ե (Ա, Հերովդէսեան, Յ.Ք. շուրջ 6-12), թիւ 6) Վահագն կանգնած դէպի ձախ, թիւ 7) փիղ ալ կը քալէ, 8) փիղ ձախ կը քալէ, թիւ 9) արծիւ թառած դէպի աջ, թիւ 10) արծիւ թառած դէպի ձախ, թիւ 11) փիղի գլուխ դէպի ձախ: Տիգրան Զ (Բ, Հերովդէսեան), առաջին իշխանութիւն (Յ.Ք. 60-62), թիւ 12) երկար իր տապար և լախտ, թիւ 13) արմաւենի ճիւղ, թիւ 14 և 15) Յաղթանակ կանգնած դէպի աջ: Տիգրան Զ (Բ, Հերովդէսեան), երկրորդ իշխանութիւն (Յ.Ք. 66-67), թիւ 16 և 17) զուգադրու Տիգրան և իր Թագուհին/դիցուհին նստած:

ԵԹՆ

11 NEWELL, Edward T. Coins from the Excavations at Beisan (Nysa-Scythopolis, Tel Beth Shean): 1929-1935, by Edward T. Newell, edited by Richard Witschonke. *American Journal of Numismatics*, Second Series, Vol. 20 (2008), pp. 1-52, pls. 1-11; Armenian coin, p. 12, Category E, No. I.40, not illus.

Coins discovered from the excavations of Beisan are catalogued. The Armenian coin is assigned to an uncertain mint. The obverse displays a lion to left and circular inscription; the reverse, a cross and stars in four angles and circular inscription. AE 24.

YTN

Ցուցակագրուած են Բէյսանի պեղումներէն գտուած դրամները: Հայկական դրամը արուած է անծանօթ դրամահատարանի մը: Երեսին պատկերուած է առիւծ մը դէպի ձախ և շրջանակաձև խորագրութիւն: Ետին՝ խաչ մը և աստղեր չորս անկիւններու մէջ ու շրջանակաձև խորագրութիւն: ՊՂ 24:

ԵԹՆ

12 NUMISMATIC GUARANTEE CORPORATION. NGC Ancients Grades Armenian Rarity. *Celator*, Vol. 23 (August 2009), No. 8 (266), pp. 29 and 35; *World Coin News*, (September 2009), pp. 1 and 50. illus.

In 2009, in Burlington, Vermont, a bronze coin of Kiurke Kouropalates (10th or 11th century) was discovered in a group of 13 unidentified ancient coins. The box of coins (purchased in 2007 for \$28.25), also, included Roman and Byzantine pieces. Originally, the surface of Kiurke coin was partly covered with encrustation; when cleaned and restored, the full Armenian inscription was legible. Estimated to be worth more than \$15,000.

YTN

(continued on p. 44)

ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՊԱՏՄՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԹԱՆԳԱՐԱՆԻ
ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԲԱԺՆԻՆ ԵՒ
ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ԸՆԿԵՐԱԿՑՈՒԹԵԱՆ
ՅԱՐԱԲԵՐՈՒԹԻՒՆՆԵՐԸ

Դրամագիտությունն երկար ժամանակ դիտում էր, որպես հայ ժողովրդի պատմության ուսումնասիրության օժանդակող գիտություն: Թանգարանում մուտք դրածն էր դրամագիտական նիւթերը, թէև որոշում էր զոլքագրում էին առանձին մատեններում և պահում համապատասխան պահարաններում, սակայն այդ նիւթերն ուսումնասիրում էին հնագիտական գտածոների հետ և համարում էին հնագիտությունը կից մասնաճյուղ¹:

Թանգարանը չունէր մասնագետ դրամագետներ, նիւթերի լիարժէք ուսումնասիրությունը զբաղելու համար: Քիչ էր նաև եղած դրամների թուաքանակը:

Ինչպես յայտնի է ամենավաղ շրջանում թողարկուած յունա-հռոմէական մետաղադրամներից Հայաստանում ի յայտ են եկել յատկապէս հելլենիստական շրջանին պատկանող հնավայրերում, կատարուած հնագիտական պեղումները ընթացքով:

Հայաստանում մեծ տարածում են ունեցել ինչպէս մ.թ.ա. IV դ. Ալեքսանդր Մակեդոնացու, նոյնպէս և յունա-հռոմէական ալլ կայսրերի, հիմնականում արծաթեայ դրամներ, որոնք Հայաստան էին թափանցել փոքր Ասիայից միջազգային սոււտրի շրջով:

1945 թ. դարնանը, Սիսեանի շրջանի, Սառնակունք գիւղում, պատահաբար յայտնաբերուեց, Հայաստանում մեծ տարածում ունեցող Անտիկ շրջանի յունա-հռոմէական, ինչպէս և հայկական Արտաշէսեան հարստութեան (մ.թ.ա. II-I դ.դ.) կողմից թողարկուած արծաթեայ դրամների մեծաքանակ հաւաքածոյ-դանձ:

Գանձի գիւտն առիթ դարձաւ, որ 1946 թ. հնագիտութեան բաժնից, բոլոր դրամական միւլաւորները, ինչպէս և դրամագիտութեանն առնչուող այլ նիւթերը — մեղալները, կնիքները, նամականիշները, նոյնիսկ կրծքանշաններն առանձնացուեն, դրամագիտութեան նոր բաժնի ստեղծման համար:

Նորաստեղծ Դրամագիտութեան Բաժնի վարիչ պաշտօնապէս հաստատուեց Ա. Մ. Շահնազարեանը, մինչև 1955 թ.:

Սիւիանում յայտնաբերուած դրամների, թանգարանի կողմից ձեռք բերուած, առաջին խմբքանակը, մանրամասն, որոշուել, ուսումնասիրուել և 1950 թ. հրատարակուել է Ա. Մ. Շահնազարեանի կողմից²:

¹ Դրամների որոշման և զոլքագրման աշխատանքները կատարում էր Թանգարանի աւագ գիտաշխատող և աշխատակից Ա. Մ. Շահնազարեանը: Նա բարձրագոյն կրթութիւն ստացել էր Ս. Պետերբուրգում և տիրուպետու էր մի քանի լեզուներին:

² Հայաստանի պատմութեան պետական թանգարանի աշխատութիւնները հատուր 11, էջ 7-35, Երևան, ՀՍՄ ԳԱ հրատարակութիւն 1950 թ.:

1955 թռակալին Լենինգրադում աւարտելով, դրամագիտութիւն մասնագիտութեան բարձրագոյն դասընթացքներն (ասպիրանտուրան) Խ. Ա. Մուշեղեանը վերադառնում է Երևան և Հայաստանի Պատմութեան Թանգարանի տնօրինութեան կողմից նշանակւում թանգարանի Դրամագիտութեան Բաժնի վարիչ փոխարինելով Ա. Մ. Շահնազարեանին³:

1959 թ. յարմարաւէտ տարածութիւն և անհրաժեշտ, համապատասխան կահաւորանք ստանալով, թանգարանի երկրորդ յարկ տեղափոխուեց դրամագիտութեան վերաբերեալ բոլոր նիւթերն, ինչպէս և թանգարանի դրամագիտութեան առանձնացուած, դրամագիտութեան վերաբերեալ անհրաժեշտ գրականութիւնը:

Դրամագիտութեան Բաժինը համալրուեց նոր աշխատակիցներով:

Ժամանակի ընթացքում, տարբեր ճանապարհներով հարստանում էր թանգարանի նորաստեղծ Դրամագիտութեան Բաժինը, տարբեր դրամաշնչաններով թողարկուած մետաղադրամների (ոսկի, արծաթ, պղինձ) նորանոր հաւաքածոներով: Հարստացման ամենակարեւոր աղբիւրներից մէկը սփիւռ-քաջ բարերար, դրամագէտ — դրամահաւաքներն էին և մնում են:

Հարստացման հետեւանջով մեծանում էր նորայայտ նիւթերի ուսումնասիրութեան և հրատարակման սյահանջը:

Խիստ կարիք էր զգացւում, ինչպէս հայ, նոյնպէս և օտարադղի, յատկապէս արտասահմանում, մասնագէտ դրամագէտներին կողմից հրատարակուած նոր աշխատութիւններին, որով հնարաւորութիւններ կ'ստեղծուէին, ծանօթանալու մասնագէտներին կողմից առաջ քաշուած հարցերին նոր մեկնաբանութիւններին⁴:

Ահա յայտնղ էր, որ Դրամագիտութեան Բաժնին իր նախադէպը չունեցող, ինքնատիպ բարեգործական աջակցութիւնը ցուցաբերեց, Ամերիկայի «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութիւնը», յանձինս վաստակաշատ գիտական գործիչ, «Ընկերակցութեան» ընտրեալ ատենադպիր, «Հայ դրամագիտական Հանդէսի» սլատասխանատու խմբագիր դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսիսեանը, մէկ անգամ ևս հաստատելով իրեն, որպէս հայ ազգի հասարակական մտածողութեան տէր անհատի:

Յիշեցնենք, որ «Ընկերակցութեան» ստեղծումն արդիւնք էր, ոչ միայն բաւարար նիւթական միջոցների առկայութեան, այլ և աշխատասիրութեան, կազմակերպչական մեծ շնորհի և յատկապէս գործի յաջողութեան նկատմամբ ունեցած մեծ հաւատքի, որով հարուստ էր դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսիսեանը:

Յիշենք — դեռևս 1971 թ. Լոս Անճելեսում դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսիսեանի յորդորներով և ջանքերով, հայ դրամագէտ — դրամահաւաքների միջոցով կազմակերպուած դրամագիտական «Ակումբ» անունը կրող միութիւնը, որն ընդարձակել էր իր գործունէութեան շրջանակները, 1974 թ. Դեկտեմբերի 7-ին միութեան անդամների հաւանութեամբ և համաձայնութեամբ վերանուանուեց «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութիւն»⁵:

«Ընկերակցութիւնը» միաւորում է ինչպէս հայ, նոյնպէս և օտարազգի դրամահաւաք-դրամագէտներին, որոնք հետաքրքրուած էին և զբաղւում էին հայոց պատմութեամբ, առաւել ևս հայկական դրամներով:

Յայտնի է որ «Ընկերակցութիւնը» ունի հրատարակութեան երկու բաժիններ — ա) Յատուկ Հրատարակութիւն մատենաշարը, ուր իրենց արժանի տեղն են զբաղեցրել հայ

³ Ա. Մ. Շահնազարեանի ընդունելով «Բաժնում» գրանցուած բոլոր ցուցանիշները:

⁴ Այդ տարիներին դրամագիտութեան վերաբերեալ գրականութիւն ըրից մուտք չէր գործում թանգարան — Դրամագիտութեան Բաժին:

⁵ Հաստատապէս կարելի է ասել, որ այն միակն է աշխարհում:

դրամագիտութեան առաջին թանաքի ապահովող, մեծածախ աքաղաղող աշխատութիւնները, ինչպէս մեծ քիմիաէտ դրամադէտ, Դոկտոր Պրոֆեսոր Պ. Զ. Պետրեանի «Դրամագիտական աշխատութիւններու ժողովածոյ»-ի երկրորդ հատորը⁶, որի հրատարակման անհրաժեշտութեան փաստի գաղափարը վերաբերեալ, Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանի կողմից նախապէս արուած առաջարկութիւնն, արժանացել էր «Ընկերակցութեան» հաւանութեանը: Ներկայացուած հատորի ինքնակենսագրականում, Դոկտոր Պրոֆեսոր Պ. Զ. Պետրեանը, դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանին բնութագրել է, որպէս «անխռն աշխատող», իր գործին նուիրուած բարձր անձնակորուծին մը (էջ 36):

Հրատարակութեան երկրորդ բաժինը, սկսած 1975 թ. հրատարակող «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան» ետամտեալ պարբերականութիւնն է, որի առաջին իսկ օրուանը, պատասխանատու խմբագիրն է դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանը⁷: «Ընկերակցութեան» և մտաշին և մեծաթիւ դրամագէտներ և հնամենեւ դրամահաւաքներ (կոլեկցիոներ) համար:

«Ընկերակցութեան» իրենց յօդուածներով կարող են թղթակցել «Ընկերակցութեան» բոլոր անդամները, համապատասխան մասնագիտական յօդուածներով (հայերէն կամ անգլերէն լեզուով): ՀՊԹ-ի Դրամագիտութեան Բաժնի գիտաշխատողներու մեծամասնութիւնը մասնակցած ու յօդուածներ հրատարակած են «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան» մէջ⁸:

Ի տարբերութիւն միւս դրամագէտներին, բազմակողմանի և բազմաբնոյթ է, վաստակաշատ դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանի հետաքրքրութիւնները, ուսումնասիրութիւնները, հետեւաբար և ներդրումները շրջանակը, դրամագիտութեան առաջնութեան ասպարէզում, որի մասին են խօսում «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան» միութեան յատուկ հրատարակութեան կողմից, մինչև այժմ հրատարակուած «Ընկերակցութեան» 15 ուսումնասիրութիւններին մեծածախ հատորները: Ինչպէս և «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան» առաջին իսկ օրից թողարկուած 35 հատորներում տեղ գտած, մասնագիտական խիստ կարևոր յօդուածները:

Վաստակաշատ դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանը զբաղուել է հայ դրամագիտութեան պատմութեան գրեթէ բոլոր ժամանակահատուածներով, նախաբխտոնէական Արտաշէսեան հարստութեան մ.թ.ա. II-I դդ., միջնադարեան, Կիլիկիայում շուրջ 300 տարիներ զոյաւած հայկական ուղեւորութեան թագաւորութեան շրջանում թողարկուած, Լուիսի Կիլիկիաների կարծաւտ իշխանութեան դրամներով, ինչպէս և դրամագիտութեան անշուշտ մեղալններով, կնիքներով, թղթադրամներով և նամականիշներով:

Դրամագէտ ուսումնասիրել և հրատարակել է նշուած ժամանակահատուածներում թողարկուած և մեզ հասած օտարազգի ժողովուրդներին ինչպէս յունահռոմէական, սլաւոնական, միջնադարեան — բիւզանդական, արաբական և այլոց դրամներ⁹:

Մեծ է նրա նպատար հայ դրամագիտութեան զարգացման առաջընթացում:

Լիարժէք ծանօթանալով դրամագէտի աշխատանքներին, մէկ անգամ ևս համոզուում ենք, որ դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանն այն հազուագիւտ մասնագէտներից է, որի աշխատութիւնները

⁶ Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութիւն, Լոս Անճելէս, Յատուկ Հրատարակութիւն մատենաշար թիւ 10, 2003 թ.:

⁷ Կազմակերպութեան և հրատարակութիւններին անշուշտ ալ աշխատանքների մեծ մասը, նոյնպէս կատարուել է «Ընկերակցութեան» ատենադիր և «Ընկերակցութեան» գլխաւոր խմբագիր դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանի միջոցով:

⁸ ՀՊԹ-ի Դրամագիտութեան Բաժնի գիտաշխատողներէ՝ «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան» մէջ յօդուածներ հրատարակած են խաչատուր Ա. Մուշեղեան, Հինգի Վ. Սարգսեան, Մարգարէտ Կարապետեան, Անահիտ Մուշեղեան, Ռուբէն Վարդանեան և Արմինէ Զօհրաբեան:

⁹ Օտար դրամներ շատ յաճախ Գոնուում են Հայաստանում, հնամենի պեղումների կամ ինքնարարական աշխատանքների ընթացքում:

Հիմնաբար բնոյթի, մենագրութիւններն են և ունեն բացառիկ գիտական արժէք, արժանի յատուկ ուշադրութեան:

Ուսումնասիրութիւնների ընթացքում, տարբեր հարցերի վերաբերեալ նա ներկայացնում է նորանոր պարզաբանումներ: Մէկ անգամ ևս անդրադառնալով դրամների պատկերատիպերում եղած խորհրդանիշների վերլուծմանը, խորագրերում չբացայայտուած մենագրերի ընթերցմանը, հնարաւորինս ուղղելով և կատարելով նոր պարզաբանումներ, որոնք վրիպել են թէ հայ և թէ օտար մասնագէտ դրամագէտների կողմից: Ինչպէս օրինակ առաջին դէպքն է երբ Կիլիկիայի Լևոն Ա. թագաւորի օծման դրամները վրայ եղած պատկերատիպային օծման արարողութեան խորհրդանիշների առկայութեան մեկնաբանումը, տրուած է ըստ «Աստուածաշունչի»: Դրամագէտի աշխատանքներն յազեցուած են նորարարութեան շնչով, հանրագիտաբանային բնոյթ ունեն: Պատմաբան դրամագէտների համար այն «սեղանի դիրք» է:

Արժանի է յատուկ ուշադրութեան և նրա կողմից տարուող բարեգործական աշխատանքային գրականութիւնը այդ ասպարէզում:

Այսպէս սկսած 1975 թ., «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան» միջոցով, հրատարակութեան երկու բաժինների կողմից հրատարակուող, ինչպէս ստուարածաւալ հատորները, նոյնպէս և «Հայ Դրամագիտական Հանդէս»ի բոլոր համարները, մեծաքանակ թուով, առաքուած են Հայաստան — Դրամագիտութեան Բաժին, նաև դրամագիտութեան վերաբերեալ այլ գիրքեր:

Ստացուած գրականութիւնը համալրում է, ոչ միայն թանգարանի գրադարանները, այլ և բաժին է հանում Երևանում բարձրագոյն ուսումնական հաստատութիւնների գրադարաններին: Տրուում էր նաև դրամագիտութեամբ հետաքրքրուող և զբաղուող անհատ հայ պատմաբաններին:



Նկար 1. Զախէն աջ, Հենրի Վ. Սարգսեան, Եղիա Թ. Ներսիսեան, Մարգո-Լենա Կարապետեան, Խաչատուր Ա. Մուշեղեան

Որոշ օրինակներ առաջում են Արցախ:

1986 թ. Հոկտեմբերի 3-20, Սփիւռքահայության հետ մշակութային կապի կոմիտէի հրաւերով, մեծ դրամագէտ Պրն. Ե. Թ. Ներսիսեանն իր աիկնոջ Անահիտին հետ, որպէս զբօսաշրջիկներ, եկել էին Հայաստան -- Երևան:

Դրամագիտութեան Բաժնի վարիչ իւ. Ա. Մուշեղեանի հրաւերով եկան ու այցելեցին թանգարանի Դրամագիտութեան Բաժնին:



Նկար 2. Զախէն աջ, Արմինէ Զօհրաբեան, Սեղա Յովհաննէսեան, Մարգօ-Լենա Կարապետեան, Հենրի Վ. Սարգսեան, Իվետա Մկրտչեան, Մարիետա Կիրակոսեան

Բաժնի աշխատակիցները պատիւ ունեցան ծանօթանալու նրանց հետ:

Աշխատելով հնարաւորութեան սահմաններում դրամագէտին ծանօթացնելու «Բաժնում» պահուող և նրանց հետաքրքրող դրամագիտական նիւթերին և «Բաժնում» տարուող աշխատանքների հետ:

Դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսիսեանն չորսէն հինգ օր այցելութեան ընթացքում ծանօթացաւ «Բաժնում» պահուող և իրեն իիտ հետաքրքրող նիւթերի հետ, յատկապէս, բաւական մեծ թիւ կազմող Հայաստանում հաստատուած աւաջին հանրապետութեան կողմից 1918-1920 թ.թ. թողարկուած և մինչև 1924 թ. Հայաստանում չրջանառութեան մէջ դործող, տարբեր արժէնիշների թղթադրամներին և նրանց վերաբերեալ իրեն հետաքրքրող հարցերին:

Վերադառնալով Լոս Անճելըս, Ե. Թ. Ներսիսեանը կատարելադործեց իւր մենագրութիւնը, զոր «Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութիւն»ը 1988 թ. հրատարակեց իւրև նոր աշխատութիւն

մը¹⁰։ Մէկ անգամ ևս ապացուցելով և հաստատելով իր նուիրուածութիւնը և աջակցութիւնը, դրամադիտական առաջնութային։

Դրամադիտութեան Բաժնում, աշխատակիցներով լուսանկարուցինք վաստակաշատ մեծ դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանի հետ (աեւ Նկար 1 և 2)։

Դրամագէտ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանը իր թղթագրամներու գիրքը¹¹ վերջացնելէ ետք, պատրաստեց նաև այլ հայ դամադիտական մենագրութիւններ, որոնցմէ լրիւ եօթ անուն գիրք ևս լոյս տեսած է։ Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանի ամենէն վերջին աշխատութիւնը իր յօդուածներու ժողովածոյին երկրորդ հատորն է, հրատարակուած՝ 2009 թուականին Հայ Դրամադիտական Ընկերակցութեան որպէս Յատուկ Հրատարակութիւն մասենաշարի թիւ 15։

Մ.-Լ. ԿԱՐԱՊԵՏԵԱՆ

Հայաստանի Պատմութեան Թանգարանի,
Դրամադիտութեան Բաժնի աւագ
աշխատակից (Նախկինում)

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

(continued from p. 38)

Յայտնաբերուած է 2009-ին, Բըրլինգթըն, Վերմոնթի մէջ, Կորիկէ կորապաղատի բրոնզէ դրամը խումբ մը 13 անդուշ հին դրամներու հետ։ Տուիով դրամները (գնուած 2007-ին, \$28-25), նաև կը պարունակեն հոմէական և բիւզանդական կտորներ։ Նախապէս, Կորիկէին դրամը մասամբ մը ծածկուած էր աղտի խաւով մը. երբ մաքրուած ու վերականգնուած՝ դրամին լրիւ խորագրութիւնը ընթերցելի եղած է։ Գնահատուած է, թէ կ'արժէ աւելի քան \$15,000։ ԵԹՆ

13 STARCK, Jeff. Armenian Coin Honors American Author William Saroyan; Proof Gold 10,000 dram Coin Commemorates Birth Centennial in 2008. *Coin World*, Vol. 50 (3 August 2009), No. 2573, p. 66, illus.

The Central bank of Armenia has issued a commemorative coin to honor the birth centennial of William Saroyan. The obverse of the coin bears a legend translating to "My Heart's in the Highlands," the title of Saroyan's play. Also, the obverse displays the legend "Central bank, 2008, Republic of Armenia" in Armenian, and sun, mountains, 10,000 drams. The reverse depicts a portrait of Saroyan, with patterned text behind that includes his name, the years of birth and death, 1908 and 1981.

YTN

Հայաստանի կենտրոնական Բանկը թողարկած է յուշագրամ մը, պատուելու համար Ուիլյամ Սարոյանի ծննդեան հարիւրամեակը։ Երեսին վրայ առկայ է «Իմ սիրտը լեռներում է» իր թատրեգուքեան վերնագրիին հայացած ձևը։ Նաև երեսին վրայ է արև, «Կենտրոնական Բանկ»։ 2008։ Հայաստանի Հանրապետութիւն», ինչպէս նաև «Լեռներ», 10,000 դրամ։ Կոնակիին վրայ քանդակուած է Սարոյանի գլխանկարը, որու ետին է ձևաւորուած դրութիւն, որ կը յարունակէ իր անունը, ծննդեան ու մահուան տարիները՝ 1908 և 1981։ ԵԹՆ

¹⁰ Bank Notes of Armenia — «Հայաստանի քղադրամները», Հոս Անճէլոս, Յատուկ Հրատարակութիւն մասենաշար թիւ 6, 1988 թ.։

¹¹ Ուսումնասիրութեան նկատառումներով մինչև այժմ, էլ այդ թղթագրամներով հետաքրքրուողներ չեն եղել։

RARE TOKENS OF THE KOUPALIAN STORE IN THE SARYAN COLLECTION

A bewildering variety of paper money circulated during the period of the first Republic of Armenia (1918-1920) and surrounding years. In addition to the bank notes of national governments, many cities including Kars, Kedabek, Vagharshapat, Yerevan, and Alexandropol¹ issued their own local currencies. Currencies of the national governments and cities of Armenia have been catalogued and published, notably by Nercessian in 1988.² Alongside these official issues, privately issued tokens were printed and circulated by commercial establishments, benevolent societies, and cooperatives. These paper or thin cardboard currencies were released in very limited numbers and are generally extremely scarce, so much so that they have not been actively investigated and are only rarely mentioned in the literature. The study of these tokens is in its infancy, and should be a fertile area for original numismatic research.

Shortly after World War I began in 1914, the frontier between the Ottoman Empire and the Russian Empire became a theatre of war. The Bolshevik revolution in 1917 and the subsequent withdrawal of Russian troops from the Caucasian front allowed Turkish armies to once again attempt an invasion of the Caucasus. Western Armenia was already in ruins as a result of the genocide of the native Armenian civilian population in 1915-1916, and the Turks sought to complete this genocide by expurgating the eastern Armenians.³ The zone of wartime destruction, and attendant poverty and dislocation, expanded eastward. Alexandropol, in particular, became a refuge for survivors of the Armenian genocide, and was filled with starving and homeless orphans.⁴

Political conditions in the Caucasus between 1914 and 1920 were extremely chaotic.⁵ After the collapse of Tsarist power in 1917, a loose confederation called the Transcaucasian Commissariat, consisting of the three main ethnic groups, Armenians, Georgians, and Azerbaijani Turks, was established. In May of 1918, the Commissariat dissolved, as Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia each declared independence.

Economic and financial life was also in a shambles. During World War I and its aftermath (1915-1920), the price of silver rose in international markets, reaching a peak in November, 1919.⁶ As a result, silver coins which were widely used for small transactions virtually disap-

¹ Alexandropol (often spelled Alexandropoli) is located in the northwestern corner of the Republic of Armenia. During the Soviet period, it was named Leninakan. It is the second largest city in Armenia and is today known by its earlier name, Gyumri.

² Y. T. Nercessian, *Bank Notes of Armenia* (Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, 1988), esp. pp. 85-136.

³ Zarevand, "The Armenian Republic and its Place in History," *The Armenian Review*, Volume 16, No. 2-62, 1963, esp. p. 26.

⁴ Knarik O. Meneshian, "Rescue of a Nation," *The Armenian Weekly* (April 25, 2009), pp. 45-46. 84-90.

⁵ A review of the political and military events leading to the creation of the Republic of Armenia may be found in Richard G. Hovannisian, *Armenia on the Road to Independence 1918* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1969), esp. pp. 45-185.

⁶ Dickson H. Leavens, *Silver Money* (Bloomington, IN: Principia Press, 1939), esp. pp. 135-140, and pp. 151 ff. Also see William F. Rickenbacker, *Wooden Nickels or the Decline and Fall of Silver Coins* (New Rochelle, NY: Arlington House, 1966), p. 31.

peared from circulation. In their place, paper currencies circulated to satisfy commercial needs. Until the October 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, Caucasia was provided with bank notes from the central Russian government. The supply of notes dried up when the Commissariat severed its ties with the Bolsheviks, and soon the government did not have enough cash on hand to pay soldiers or meet daily expenses. As a temporary measure to address the emergency, in January 1918, an issue of 100 million rubles of Transcaucasian Commissariat notes was authorized and printed. As often happens in such circumstances, governmental authorities print money without regard to backing in precious metal. Within a few months the 100 million rubles had been depleted, and more notes were printed.⁷ Subsequent authorizations of Commissariat notes continued to be printed and used even after the constituent republics declared independence in May of 1918. The ease of printing led to severe inflation⁸ especially between 1919 and 1924.

Students of this period are often unaware of the existence of the private tokens and little has been written about them.⁹ Information about the specific circumstances under which they were printed and used, and the establishments which issued and circulated them, is lacking. This dearth of information poses a challenge to the researcher. Reasoning from economic conditions of the time, it is logical to suppose that tokens were printed in response to a shortage of coined money in local markets and especially to provide small change for daily transactions.¹⁰ They may also have been used for other purposes, such as to pay employees and/or to direct business to or advertise the issuing establishment.

The paper currency catalogs of P. F. Ryabchenko,¹¹ widely used today by Russian numismatists, list almost 28,000 varieties of paper currencies from all parts of the former USSR, including Armenia. This reference lists official bank notes as well as tokens. Understandably, for a field so vast, these catalogs offer only the barest minimum of information on individual issues.

This is certainly the case for the extremely rare paper tokens (called "checks"¹²) of the T. Koupalian Store (Vajaradoun T. Koupalian) described below. Two denominations (the 10-ruble and 50-ruble examples) are listed by Ryabchenko. The 20-ruble token is unlisted and may therefore be considered unique to date. To the best of our knowledge it has not been published elsewhere heretofore.¹³

Description of the tokens:

T. KOUPALIAN STORE, 10 rubles

Armenian legend in six text lines, printed using a variety of typefaces, enclosed within a solid double line frame decorated with floral printer's ornaments. The numeral 10 is incorporated into the frame six times: once at each of the four corners, and once each at the top and bottom centers of the horizontal frame lines.

⁷ Peter Symes, "Bonds of the Transcaucasian Commissariat," *IBNS Journal*, Vol. 47, No. 1 (2008), pp. 43-48. Nercessian, *op. cit.*, esp. pp. 39-41.

⁸ Nercessian, *op. cit.*, esp. pp. 25-36, provides a detailed discussion of inflation in Armenia.

⁹ The single article that comes to mind was written by Jack Guevrekian and is based on examples in his collection: "Notes on Some Tokens of Armenia," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 9, No. 4 (December 1983), pp. 38-44. Five token issues are described in this paper: Railway Workers Cooperative, Russian Dramatic Theatre of Leninakan, Shirak Canal, Soldiers' Aid Society, and Yeranorian Brothers. The Koupalian tokens are not mentioned.

¹⁰ In the years following World War I, emergency money called notgeld was issued in great numbers and variety in Germany and Austria, especially during the period of hyperinflation (ca. 1919-1923).

¹¹ P. F. Ryabchenko, *Complete Catalogue of Paper Banknotes and Bills of Russia, USSR, CIS Countries (1769-1994)*, (Kiev, 1995), pp. 557-567, in Russian. More recent editions have been published, all in Russian.

¹² In this context, the term "check" refers to a paper note or token, not a draft against a bank deposit.

¹³ Ryabchenko, *op. cit.*, p. 562, nos. 22484-22485. This catalogue provides a rarity indication for the 10 R and 50 R tokens, but does not offer a detailed description or attribution of the notes. The 20 R token is unknown to Ryabchenko, even in the more recent editions of his catalogs.

The text lines read:

ՎԱՃԱՌԱՏՈՒՆ / Թ. ԳՈՒՓԱԼԵԱՆ / ԹՈՓՉԵԱՆ ՓՈՂՈՑ / ՉԵՔ № /

ՌՈՒՔ. 10 ՌՈՒՔ. / Ստորագրութիւն

Dimensions: 94 x 69 mm

Printed area maximum dimensions: 81 x 63 mm

Uniface printing in black ink on watermarked paper

Extremely faint pink underprint with floral designs similar to those in the frames
Ryabchenko 22484, Saryan collection.²



Fig. 1. T. Koupalian store, 10 rubles



Fig. 2. T. Koupalian store, 20 rubles

T. KOUPALIAN STORE, 20 rubles

Armenian legend in six text lines, printed using a variety of typefaces, enclosed within a solid double line frame decorated with floral printer's ornaments. The numeral 20 is incorporated into the frame six times: once at each of the four corners, and once each at the top and bottom centers of the horizontal frame lines.

The text lines read:

ՎԱՃԱՌԱՏՈՒՆ / Թ. ԳՈՒՓԱԼԵԱՆ / ԹՈՓՉԵԱՆ ՓՈՂՈՑ / ՉԵՔ No /
ՌՈՒԲ. 20 ՌՈՒԲ. / Ստորագրութիւն

Dimensions: 110 x 72 mm

Printed area maximum dimensions: 81 x 63 mm

Uniface printing in black ink on watermarked paper

Faint pink underprint with floral designs similar to those in the frames

Unlisted in Ryabchenko, possibly unique, Saryan collection.

T. KOUPALIAN STORE, 50 rubles

Armenian legend in six text lines, printed using a variety of typefaces, enclosed within a solid double line frame decorated with floral printer's ornaments. The numeral 50 is incorporated into the frame six times: once at each of the four corners, and once each at the top and bottom centers of the horizontal frame lines.

The text lines read:

ՎԱՃԱՌԱՏՈՒՆ / Թ. ԳՈՒՓԱԼԵԱՆ / ԹՈՓՉԵԱՆ ՓՈՂՈՑ / ՉԵՔ No /
ՌՈՒԲ. 50 ՌՈՒԲ. / Ստորագրութիւն

Note dimensions: 98 x 73 mm

Printed area maximum dimensions: 81 x 63 mm

Uniface printing in black ink on watermarked paper

Pink underprint with floral designs similar to those in the frames.

Ryabchenko 22485, Saryan collection.



Fig. 3. T. Koupalian store, 50 rubles

What we know or can surmise about the Koupalian tokens is revealed by examination of the examples available for study. The tokens are printed in black ink on cream to light tan paper similar in quality to newsprint, on one side of the paper only. The paper is watermarked with a fine mesh network oriented diagonally on each note. The designs of the three denominations are essentially identical, varying only in the face value inscribed on the tokens. Each note has a very light underprint in pink which consists of a grid of small floral ornamental figures, recalling the ornamentation which appears in the frame. The pink underprint is clearly visible only on the 50-ruble token; only traces of it are present on the other two notes. The text on each note is enclosed by an ornamental frame which carries numbers representing the face value of the token in rubles, repeated six times. The exclusively Armenian legend reads (translated): Store [of] / T. Koupalian / Topchian Street / check number / face value in rubles / signature. On the examples published here, the spaces for the serial number and signature are blank, evidence that these examples were not actually placed into circulation.

There is insufficient information at the present time to date this issue definitively. The family name Koupalian is spelled using standard Armenian orthography, which certainly places the tokens prior to circa 1922, when authorities in Soviet Armenia revised the traditional spelling. The face values on the notes range between 10 and 50 rubles suggesting that this issue was printed in 1918-1920, probably 1918 or 1919.

Attributing the tokens to their place of issue is also problematic. The exclusively Armenian legend strongly suggests that the tokens were printed in Armenia. An unusual feature of these tokens is that the location of the store (Topchian Street), but not the city, is indicated on the face of the tokens. We can thus surmise that the Koupalian Store was situated in a larger city, one for which the location within that city needed to be specified.¹⁴ A specialist from Armenia has indicated to me his belief that the Koupalian Store was located in Alexandropol.¹⁵ This supposition is supported by a notice in the rare Russian-language paper money catalog of Sokolov and Ivanov dated 1927,¹⁶ which attributes the 10-ruble and 50-ruble Koupalian tokens to the city of Alexandropol.¹⁷

Alexandropol was perhaps the leading commercial city of Caucasian Armenia in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Its inhabitants were active in trade and practiced a wide variety of crafts and occupations.¹⁸ The city had dozens of commercial establishments and a large market. The attribution of the Koupalian tokens to Alexandropol can be confirmed when the location of Topchian Street is established.

L. A. SARYAN, Ph.D.

¹⁴ I searched in several reference works, such as the *Armenian Soviet Encyclopedia* and the *Armenian Toponymic Dictionary*, but was unable to find any references to the Koupalian Store or Topchian Street.

¹⁵ I am indebted to my friend Bagrat Sahakyan for this suggestion. Private communication dated November 16, 2009.

¹⁶ V. M. Sokolov and M. L. Ivanov, *Catalogue of the Non-essential (Private) Notes Circulated on the Territory of the USSR, 1914-25* (Rostov-on-Don, Russia: North Caucasian Branch of the All-Union Collectors Society and Yu. B. Khelmer, representative of the All-Union Philatelic Agency, 1927), p. 2, in Russian. This rare publication, issued in typescript in a limited edition of 200 copies, was prepared only a few years after these notes were circulated. Sokolov and Ivanov probably relied upon informants from Armenia who were familiar with the notes issued at that time.

¹⁷ Other tokens from the same period are known to have been issued in Alexandropol. Among these are the Soldiers' Aid Society and the Railway Workers Cooperative issues. See Guevrekian, pp. 38-44, and Ryabchenko, pp. 562-563 (nos. 22464-22473 and nos. 22511-22517).

¹⁸ V. A. Aprahamyan, *Armenian Trade Guilds in the Cities of the Transcaucasus* (Yerevan: Haiasdan Publishing, 1971), in Armenian, devotes several pages to crafts and businesses of Alexandropol in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; see pp. 52-61.

LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

Urakh em Dzez teghekacnel, vor ugharkvats 12 tup grakanutyunn aysor, verdjapcs, berecing tangaran. Grqere ktarven tangarani gradarani pahoc ev nor tarva toneric heto hnaravor klini dranq bajanel Hayastani yev Arcakhi gradaranannerin.
Ruben Vardanyan

Enclosed find my dues for the year 2010. I congratulate the Society for the excellent work on publishing the quarterly Journal.
Stephen Dulgarian

Once again, my Armenian numismatic displays have garnered high honors. The Milwaukee Numismatic Society awarded me a gold coin for "Best in Show" for 2009 for my display on the "1919 Artistic Banknotes of Armenia" (with a score of 289 out of a possible 300 points), and my display of "Selected Mekhitarist Medals" garnered 280 of 300 possible points. On February 7, 2010, I am scheduled to give an illustrated talk at Sts. Joachim and Anna Armenian Church in Palos Heights, IL, on "Armenian History and Culture Reflected on Modern Armenian Money."
L. Saryan

...I have studied your book by now. It is one of the best books on paper money. Nearly all is embraced. I have some questions. First of all you are using the term bonds referring to the Transcaucasian Commissariat and other Transcaucasian emergency notes. I understand that your book was written long ago and there might have been some reassessment. Do you think now that this term suits the above-mentioned notes?

I also wanted to discuss the Erivan checks with you if you have time and wish. I could formulate my questions to the issues on pages 123-125.
Mikhail Istomin
Kharkov, Ukraine

Editor's Response: Thank you for your e-mail, and kind and flattery words on my book, *Bank Notes of Armenia*.

Your question is a good one. Why call the Transcaucasian emergency notes "bonds"?

In 1917 and 1918 they did not have an establishment similar to what we have today. Here we call it "Federal Reserve Bank of the United States of America," responsible for issuing money in US dollars. In Armenia there is "the Central Bank of the Republic of Armenia" which issues paper money in drams.

In 1918 the Transcaucasian Commissariat finance ministry issued 100 million ruble bank notes. The total sum was equal to what Russia owed Transcaucasia. Then they were called bonds. In 1918 the 100 million rubles were consumed very fast. In late 1918 they printed more money. This time they used the money guaranteed by the real estate of the country. The same is true for the city notes, it is guaranteed by the real estate of the city.

They were called "bonds" in those days. Also, the same is printed on the notes in Russian, "Transcaucasian Commissariat Bonds." So did I. Today, I see no reason why they should use a different term. This subject is discussed extensively by Gr. Djaghnetian, "The Bonds of Transcaucasian Commissariat," (please see BNA, p. 40, note 1). Djaghnetian is the same person whose signature appears on Armenian bank notes (see p. 178, signature 122).

I hope that I have been able to give you a satisfactory answer.

NUMISMATIC LITERATURE HAS REACHED ARMENIA

On January 20, 2009, 12 cardboard boxes of Armenian numismatic literature were shipped to Armenia (see ANJ June 2009, pp. 54-56).

According to the December 23, 2009, dated e-mail of Ruben Vardanyan, Curator of the Numismatics Section, History Museum of Armenia in Yerevan, these 12 boxes have been delivered to the Museum.



Series II

Volume 6 (36), No. 3

September 2010

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ARMENIAN

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NUMISMATIC

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IN PROGRESS

RUSSIAN MEDALS DEDICATED TO THE CONQUEST OF EASTERN ARMENIA

This will be an article to be published in the ANJ, hopefully in 2011, issue No. 1. Those who would like to see their holdings to be added to the corpus of this article, please give us an accurate description of the medal, weight, diameter, rim thickness, and die axis orientation. YTN

In Preparation

METROLOGY OF COINAGE OF THE ARMENIAN KINGDOM OF SOPHENE

A project is planned where we would like to prepare metrological tables for the Armenian kingdom of Sophene.

The information needed is the weight, diameter, die axis orientation, and an exact description or reference to Bedoukian's CSC or our ACV. The photograph of the coin is not required. However, it would help if field marks, monograms, or field letters are described accurately so that the coin can be classified with the proper group.

We would like to invite and encourage the museum curators and collectors to participate in this study.

The coins of Sophene are extremely rare and very few (59 pieces known). Therefore, it is very important that collectors and museums participate in this project. YTN

In Preparation

A CORPUS ON COINAGE OF THE ARMENIAN KINGDOM OF COMMAGENE

Mr. Rudy Dillen is preparing a corpus on 'Commagene in Nummis' with all the available information he can detect. All collectors and museums are encouraged to contact him and provide the information he needs. E-mail: rudy.dillen@telenet.be YTN

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NUMISMATIC SOCIETY SHIPPED COIN BOOKS TO ARMENIA

Immediately after the 1988 Armenian earthquake, the Armenian Numismatic Society organized a drive to ship Armenian numismatic books to the libraries of Armenia. At that time, the "Committee for Cultural Relations with Armenians Abroad" distributed the material we shipped to the libraries of Armenia and Artsakh.

Since then it has been a tradition of the Armenian Numismatic Society to ship at least ten percent of book publications to the Numismatics Section, History Museum of Armenia, to undertake the responsibility of distribution of these books to schools of higher education in Armenia and Artsakh.

In early 2009, the Society shipped a large supply of *Armenian Numismatic Journals* and more than a few hundred books of its *Special Publication* series. They were packed into 12 cardboard boxes occupying close to 12 cubic ft. space. The retail market value is estimated at \$8500.

The Armenian Gospel Mission, based in Pasadena, shipped our numismatic literature to Armenia. The A.G.M. president is Mr. Stephen Lazarian. The A.G.M. raises money in the United States and every few months ships a cargo container full of useable clothing, furnishings, medical equipment, medicine, and food stuffs to Armenia, where they have mission programs, as well as day schools for hundreds of students, feeding them, giving them their education, as well as the Gospel message.

The Armenian Numismatic Society is very thankful to the Armenian Gospel Mission and Mr. Lazarian for their help in shipping our numismatic literature to Armenia.

According to the December 23, 2009, dated e-mail of Dr. Ruben Vardanyan, curator of the Numismatics Section, 12 boxes of the numismatic literature were delivered to their destination in good condition.

Those who would like to donate numismatic literature (or cash contribution) to the History Museum of Armenia, may contact the Armenian Numismatic Society at 8511 Beverly Park Place, Pico Rivera, California 90660, U. S. A. or by e-mail at ArmNumSoc@aol.com.

Y. T. Nercessian

ANOTHER ARMENIAN-INSCRIBED LEVON I BILLON

Shortly after the publication of our paper (Nercessian, "Quarter Double Trams and Billons of Levon I," ANJ 2010, pp. 3-15, pl. 1), we were informed that there is another Armenian-inscribed billon of Levon I, 0.4 gram, 14mm x 14mm, pierced at the obverse 9h, to the right of inner dotted inscription circle. Additionally, it has irregular flan and is chipped at the obverse 12:30h. It is very similar to the Slocum billon, BA2, the obverse and reverse dies would be 5 and 7 respectively, the classification is BA2a according to our study. Our sincere thanks to Levon Vrtanesyan and Vicken Yegparian for letting us know about this extremely rare coin.

METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.)

(Section 5)

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

Head of Wheat

No f/l

1 Chalcus

1	107	3.04g-10h	HACII28
2	100	3.02g-13ø-12h	YNCat184
3	104	2.50g-13ø-12h	TG308
4	107	2.38g-16ø	AC&B13-9
5	107	2.30g-13ø-12h	AC&B17-45
6	107	2.30g-12ø	AC&B18-49
7	107	2.22g	SomeUnpub10PB
8	107	2.21g-12h	MD27NumARSClas
9	107	2.19g	Ariadne1983Dec.146
10	107v	2.19g-13ø	ÆHoard139
11	107	2.11g	CNG27-17
12	100	2.10g-14ø-12h	YNCat185
13	107	2.10g-12h	MD27
14	107	2.10g	LindIII965
15	107	2.10g-13.5ø-1h	JN92MaB
16	100	2.02g-11ø-1h	TG297
17	107	2.02g	MD27Peus
18	100	2.00g-13ø-1h	TG294
19	107	1.99g-12h	HAC117
20	100	1.97g-13ø-1h	TG295
21	107	1.96g-12ø-12h	AC&B17-47
22	100	1.95g-12ø-1h	TG300
23	100	1.92g-12ø-1h	TG301
24	107	1.91g-12h	HAC116

Avg. = 52.60+24 = 2.19g weight

Avg. = 180.5+14 = 12.89mm diameter

Avg. = 1/10h, 9/12h, 6/1h (16) die axis orientation

1/2 Chalcus

25	107	1.89g-12h	HAC115
26	---	1.87g-12.9ø-1h	Er19648/105
27	100	1.84g-13ø	MA29
28	107	1.84g-12h	HAC114
29	107	1.82g	MD27Elsen
30	107	1.81g-12ø	AC&B16A-167
31	107	1.77g	CAA107PB

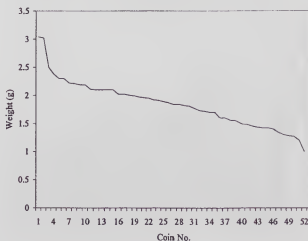
No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

32	107	1.73g	CNG27-18
33	100	1.72g-12ø-1h	TG298
34	100	1.70g-12ø-1h	TG299
35	107	1.70g-11ø-12h	YNCat186
36	107	1.60g-11ø-1h	Lanz 144-293
37	107	1.60g-13ø-2h	JN94MaB
38	100	1.56g-11ø-12h	TG296
39	105	1.55g-11.1ø-12h	HM
40	107	1.49g	CNG27-18
41	107	1.48g	MD27Spear
42	102	1.45g	Unpub3JG
43	107	1.43g-1h	HACII27
44	107	1.42g-13ø	AC&B9A-13
45	101	1.42g-13ø-12h	YNCat187
46	101	1.40g-13ø	ADTII-TIV17
47	---	1.34g-12.1ø-1h	Er19648/108
48	107	1.30g-11.5ø-11h	JN96HT
49	105	1.28g-11ø	ADTII-TIV16
50	107	1.27g	CAA107PB
51	107	1.20g-12.5ø-12h	JN97HT
52	102	1.00g-11ø-12h	YNCat188

Avg. = 43.48+28 = 1.55g weight

Avg. = 216.1+18 = 12.01mm diameter

Avg. = 1/11h, 8/12h, 6/1h, 1/2h (16) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.45, Head of wheat, no field letters

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Tot.Avg. = $96.08+52 = 1.85\text{g}$ weight
 Tot.Avg. = $396.6+32 = 12.39\text{mm}$ diameter
 Tot.Avg. = 1/10h, 1/11h, 17/12h,
 12/1h, 1/2h (32) die axis orient.

f/l $\overline{\Gamma}$ 1 Chalcus

1	107	2.57g-16ø	Foss71BM
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Avg. = 2.57g weight
 Avg. = 16mm diameter

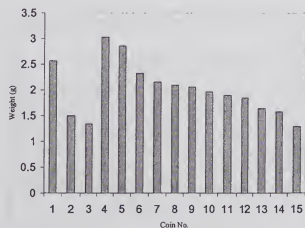
1/2 Chalcus

2	---	1.50g-12ø	Foss70
3	107	1.34g-11ø	Foss72BM

Avg. = $2.84+2 = 1.42\text{g}$ weight
 Avg. = $23+2 = 11.5\text{mm}$ diameter

f/l $\overline{\Gamma}$ / A or T/A1 Chalcus

4	107v	3.03g	NJ457
5	107	2.86g-13ø-12h	AC&B17-47
6	100	2.33g-12ø-1h	TG304
7	107v	2.16g-12ø-12h	YN5948
8	---	2.10g-12.7ø-12hEr19648/114	
9	100	2.06g-12ø-1h	TG306
10	107	1.97g-14ø-12h	AC&B17-47
11	100	1.90g-12ø-1h	TG305
12	100	1.85g-15ø-1h	TG307
13	107	1.64g-13ø-12h	AC&B17-47
14	107	1.58g	MD87Bar
15	100	1.29g-13ø-12h	TG303

Ch. 2.46, Head of wheat, $\overline{\Gamma}$ / A, $\overline{\Gamma}$...

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Avg. = $24.77+12 = 2.06\text{g}$ weight
 Avg. = $128.7+10 = 12.87\text{mm}$ diameter
 Avg. = 6/12h, 4/1h (10) die axis orient.

Tot.Avg. = $30.18+15 = 2.01\text{g}$ weight
 Tot.Avg. = $167.7+13 = 12.9\text{mm}$ diameter
 Tot.Avg. = 6/12h, 4/1h (10) die axis
 orientation

f/l A/ΔH, ΔH or ΔHM

1 Chalcus

1	100	2.80g-14ø	EJ31
2	103	2.62g-15ø-1h	TG309
3	107v	2.57g-13ø-12h	ÆHoard137
4	105	2.22g	CS4-663
5	107	2.21g	Gorny60-255
6	107v	2.21g-12ø	AC&B19-31
7	103	2.18g-14ø-1h	TG312
8	107v	2.12g-14ø	CNG46-677
9	103-4	2.03g	MD48ANS
10	107v	2.00g	CNG20-388
11	103	1.98g-14ø	CNG36-581
12	103	1.97g	Gorny81-414
13	107	1.93g-13ø	EJ32

Avg. = $28.84+13 = 2.22\text{g}$ weight
 Avg. = $109+8 = 13.63\text{mm}$ diameter
 Avg. = 1/12h, 2/1h (3) die axis orientation

1/2 Chalcus

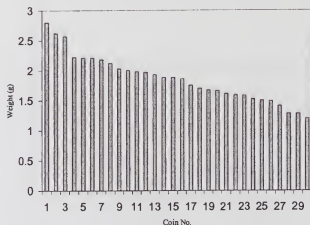
14	107	1.88g-15ø-12h	YNCat181
15	104v	1.88g-15ø	CNG36-582
16	104	1.86g-12ø-12h	YNCat189
17	103	1.75g-13ø-1h	TG311
18	107v	1.70g-13ø-12h	ÆHoard136
19	104	1.67g-12ø-1h	TG302
20	103	1.66g-13ø-12h	TG310
21	107	1.61g	Gorny160-1652
22	107v	1.59g-13.2ø-12h	HM
23	103-4	1.58g	MD48Elsen
24	103	1.52g-14ø-1h	TG313
25	107	1.50g-11ø-1h	JN95MaB
26	107v	1.49g-12.3ø-12h	HM
27	107v	1.41g-12ø-12h	HM
28	107	1.28g-13ø-12h	YNCat182
29	103-4	1.28g-12h	MD48BN
30	107	1.20g-11.5ø-1h	JN98Cilicia

Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.)

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Avg. = $26.86 \div 17 = 1.58\text{g}$ weight
 Avg. = $180.0 \div 14 = 12.86\text{mm}$ diameter
 Avg. = 9/12h, 5/1h (14) die axis orient.

Tot.Avg. = $55.70 \div 30 = 1.86\text{g}$ weight
 Tot.Avg. = $289.0 \div 22 = 13.14\text{mm}$ diameter
 Tot.Avg. = 10/12h, 7/1h (17) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.47, Head of wheat, f/1 A/ Δ H, Δ H or Δ HM

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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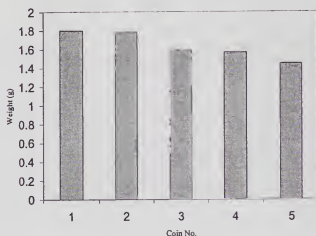
Inscription Variety

f/1 A, Δ HM or Δ H

1/2 Chalcus

1	107	1.80g-14 ϕ -1h	JN93HT
2	104	1.78g-11 ϕ	CNG36-580
3	107	1.59g	HAC133
4	107	1.57g-11 ϕ	Foss73
5	103	1.45g-11 ϕ -12h	YNCat183

Tot.Avg. = $8.19 \div 5 = 1.64\text{g}$ weight
 Tot.Avg. = $47 \div 4 = 11.75\text{mm}$ diameter
 Tot.Avg. = 1/12h, 1/1h (2) die axis orient.



Ch. 2.48, Head of wheat, inscrpt. variety

Table 2.13. Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of *Tigranes II* coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Weight
Head of wheat, No f/1	52	1.85g
Head of wheat, $\overline{\Gamma}$ /A, $\overline{\Gamma}$...	15	2.01g
Head of wheat, f/1 A/ Δ H, Δ HM	30	1.86g
Head of wheat, inscr. variety	5	1.64g
Total	102	

Table 2.14 Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Tigranes II coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Diameter
Head of wheat, No f/l	32	12.39mm
Head of wheat, $\overline{\Gamma}$ /A, $\overline{\Gamma}$...	13	12.90mm
Head of wheat, f/l A/ΔH, ΔHM	22	13.14mm
Head of wheat, inscr. variety	4	11.75mm
Total	71	

Table 2.15, Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orient. of Tigranes II cop.

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
Head of wheat, No f/l	32	1/10h, 1/11h, 17/12h, 12/1h, 1/2h
Head of wheat, $\overline{\Gamma}$ /A, $\overline{\Gamma}$...	10	6/12h, 4/1h
Head of wheat, f/l A/ΔH, ΔHM	17	10/12h, 7/1h
Head of wheat, inscr. variety	2	1/12h, 1/1h
Total	61	

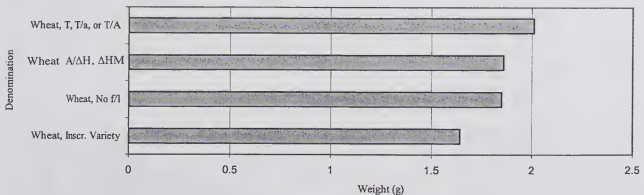


Chart 2.49. Average weights of Tigranes II copper coins (grams)

METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.)

(Section 6)

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

Cypress Tree

No f/l

2 Chalci

1	---	4.75g-20.6ø-1h	Er19983/2
2	105	4.70g	Some Unpublished2PB
3	---	4.68g-20.4ø-1h	Er19992/59
4	105	4.68g	Some Unpublished2PB
5	105	4.55g-16ø-12h	TG276
6	105	4.40g-15ø-12h	TG277
7	105	4.35g-15ø-12h	YNCat192
8	105	3.94g-17ø-11h	YNCat193
9	105	3.91g-15ø	CNG36-594

Avg. = 39.96+9 = 4.44g weight

Avg. = 119.0+7 = 17.0mm diameter

Avg. = 1/11h, 3/12h, 2/1h (6) die axis orientation

1 Chalcus

10	105	3.72g-15ø	CNG36-595
11	---	3.55g-18ø-12h	Er20095/3
12	---	3.33g-15ø-12h	Er19992/67
13	---	3.29g-15.2ø-12h	Er19992/68
14	---	3.09g-16.6ø-12h	Er19992/65
15	105-6	3.10g-16ø-5h	JN105-MaB
16	105	3.08g	MD127Gorny
17	105	2.96g-13ø	MA28
18	---	2.73g-15.6ø-12h	Er19992/66
19	---	2.13g	SomeUnpub9PB
20	105	2.11g-15ø-12h	TG278

Avg. = 33.09+11 = 3.01g weight

Avg. = 139.4+9 = 15.49mm diameter

Avg. = 1/5h, 6/12h (7) die axis orientation

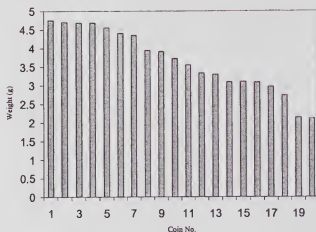
Tot.Avg. = 73.05+20 = 3.65g weight

Tot.Avg. = 258.4+16 = 16.15mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 1/5h, 1/11h, 9/12h, 2/1h

(13) die axis orientation

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	



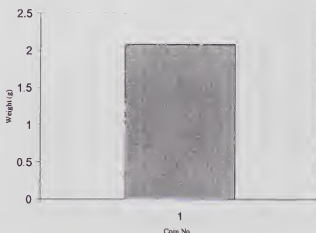
Ch. 2.50, Cypress tree, no field letters

f/l A, o/s

1 Chalcus

1	105	3.08g-16ø-1h	TG279
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Tot.Avg. = 3.08g weight
Tot.Avg. = 16mm diameter
Tot.Avg. = 1/1h die axis orientation



Ch. 2.51, Cypress tree, f/l A, o/s

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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f/1 ΔH, HΛ or M

2 Chalci

1	---	5.48g-19.7ø-1h	Er19992/60
2	105	4.19g-16ø-12h	TG281
3	---	3.94g-16.4ø-12h	Er19992/63
4	---	3.81g-16.2ø-1h	Er19992/61

Avg. = 17.42+4 = 4.36g weight

Avg. = 68.3+4 = 17.08mm diameter

Avg. = 2/12h, 2/1h (4) die axis orientation

1 Chalcus

5	105	3.72g-15ø-12h	YNCat190
6	---	3.61g-15.9ø-1h	Er19992/62
7	105	3.49g-16ø-12h	YNCat191
8	---	3.40g-16.5ø-12h	Er19031/15
9	105	2.81g-15ø	CNG51-759
10	105	2.12g-15ø-12h	TG280

Avg. = 19.15+6 = 3.19g weight

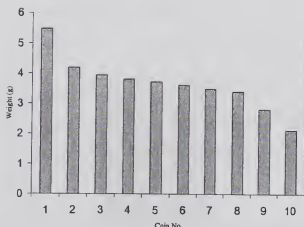
Avg. = 93.4+6 = 16mm diameter

Avg. = 4/12h, 1/1h (5) die axis orientation

Tot.Avg. = 36.57+10 = 3.66g weight

Tot.Avg. = 161.7+10 = 16.17mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 6/12h, 3/1h (9) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.52, Cypress tree, ΔH, HΛ or M

f/1 ζΛ

2 Chalci

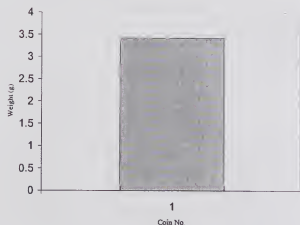
1	---	3.42g-18.9ø-12h	Er19992/69
---	-----	-----------------	------------

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Tot.Avg. = 3.42g weight

Tot.Avg. = 18.9mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 1/12h (1) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.53 Cypress tree, f/1 ζΛ

c/m Triskelion (Y) behind king's head

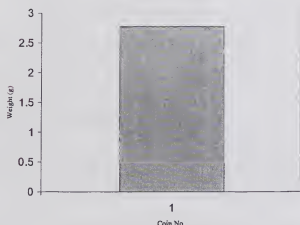
2 Chalci

1	---	2.77g-14.7ø-12h	Er19992/64
---	-----	-----------------	------------

Tot.Avg. = 2.77g weight

Tot.Avg. = 14.7mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation



Ch. 2.54, Cypress tree, c/m Triskelion (Y)

Table 2.16, Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of Tigranes II coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Weight
Cypress tree, No f/l	20	3.65g
Cypress tree, f/l A, o/s	1	3.08g
Cypress tree, ΔH, HΛ or M	10	3.66g
Cypress tree, f/l ζΛ	1	3.42g
Cypress tr., c/m Triskelion (Υ)	1	2.77g
Total	33	

Table 2.17 Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Tigranes II coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Diameter
Cypress tree, No f/l	16	16.15mm
Cypress tree, f/l A, o/s	1	16mm
Cypress tree, ΔH, HΛ or M	10	16.17mm
Cypress tree, f/l ζΛ	1	18.9mm
Cypress tr., c/m Triskelion (Υ)	1	14.7mm
Total	29	

Table 2.18, Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orient. of Tigranes II cop.

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
Cypress tree, No f/l	13	1/5h, 1/11h, 9/12h, 2/1h
Cypress tree, f/l A, o/s	1	1/1h die axis orient.
Cypress tree, ΔH, HΛ or M	9	6/12h, 3/1h
Cypress tree, f/l ζΛ	1	1/12h
Cypress tr., c/m Triskelion (Υ)	1	1/12h
Total	61	

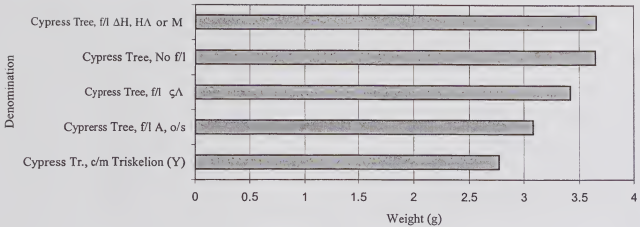


Chart 2.55 Average weights of Tigranes II copper coins (grams)

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

14 CLASSICAL NUMISMATIC GROUP, INC. *Auction 82: A Mail Bid Auction Sale*; "Armenian Coinage from J. S. Wagner Collection." Lancaster, Pennsylvania: Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., 16 September 2009, pp. 116-119, Nos. 678-706, illus.

Description of the following Armenian coins are given: Sophene, Abdissares (ca. 210 B.C.), a bronze with eagle reverse; Tigranes II the Great (95-56 B.C.), bronze coins displaying Tyche of Damascus, o/s bronze displaying Tyche of Antioch, tripod, Heracles, cornucopia, Tyche, bust of Tigranes II [I] left/Nike standing right; Artavasdes II (56-34 B.C.), bronzes with Nike reverse; Tigranes III (20-8 B.C.) [II] a small module bronze with Nike reverse, elephant advancing left, Tigranes III [III], a bronze with caparisoned elephant advancing right; Tigranes V (A.D. 6-12) [IV], a bronze coin displaying Heracles reverse; Tigranes VI (A.D. 60-62) [IV], bronzes displaying Nike with upright hands; Tigranes VI (A.D. 66/67) [Tigranes IV and Erato, 2 B.C.-A.D. 1], Fortuna seated left; Artaxata civic bronze coins, displaying Nike advancing left, date, palm bound with taenia, grain ear; Armenia [Commagene], a bronze displaying Armenian tiara/horse; Commagene (uncertain), a drachm imitating Seleucid king Demetrios Soter; Mithridates I Callinicus (96-70 B.C.), bronzes with club and Nike reverses; Antiochus I Theos (69-34 B.C.), a bronze with lion of Commagene; Mithridates II (34-20 B.C.), struck in the name of Antiochus I Theos and Mithridates II, a bronze with bull reverse; Asinualus of Media-Atropatene (ca. 30 B.C.), a bronze displaying Nike driving quadriga right on the reverse. The weight and die axis orientation for each coin is published. YTN

Տրուած են հետևյալ հայկական դրամներու նկարագրութիւնները: Մոփք, Արդիսարէս (շուրջ 210 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզ մը արծուի պատկերատիպով. Տիգրան Բ (95-56 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզէ դրամներ որոնց կոնակներուն վրայ պատկերուած է Տամասկոսի Բախտը, կրկնադրոշմուած դրամ մը Անտիոքի Բախտի պատկերատիպով, եռոտանի, վահագն, ամաթեղլիւր, Անտիոքի Բախտ. Տիգրան Բ [Ա]-ի դիմանկար դէպի ձախ/Յաղթանակը կանգնած. Տիգրան Գ (20-8 Ն.Ք.), [Բ]-ի փղթառածաւլ բրոնզ մը որու կոնակին վրայ պատկերուած է Յաղթանակը, փիղ դէպի ձախ, [Բ]-ի բրոնզ մը գլխածածկ փիղով մը դէպի աջ. Տիգրան Զ (8-5 Ն.Ք.) [Դ]-ի բրոնզ մը որու ետին պատկերուած է վահագնը, Տիգրան Զ [Դ]-ի բրոնզներ որոնց ետին պատկերուած է ձեռքը վեր վերցուցած Յաղթանակի պատկերատիպով, Տիգրան Զ (Բ.Ք. 66/67) [Տիգրան Դ և Երատոյ]-ի բրոնզ մը դէպի ձախ նստած (cont. on p. 70)

THE ARMENIAN COIN AUCTION OF J. S. WAGNER COLLECTION (2009)

Coins from the collections of J. S. Wagner and William F. Blank, consigned to the Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., were auctioned on September 16, 2009. Most of the Armenian coins, the subject of this paper, belong to the Wagner collection. Unfortunately, there was no biographical information on either one of the consigners.

Altogether, 28 lots of ancient bronze coins and one silver coin were included in the Armenian section: Sophene (1 lot), Artaxiad dynasty of Armenia (17), Artaxata civic issues (4), Commagene (6), Media-Atropatene (1).¹

Unfortunately, some of the attributions did not follow the established traditional system by Bedoukian and Nercessian. Instead, they were attributed incorrectly. Where this reviewer disagrees, he thus indicated the proper attribution in rectangular brackets, i.e. Tigranes VI [IV].²

Some feature coins included a bronze coin of Abdissares (lot 700, sold for \$4,600), Damascene bronzes of Tigranes II (678 and 679, each one \$718.85), a bronze coin with tripod reverse (681 \$714.15), a bronze of Tigranes II [I] where the king is facing left and Nike on the reverse (lot 685 \$1265), bronze coins of Artavasdes II (686 \$1323.65 and 687 \$1322.50), a small module bronze coin of Tigranes III [II] Nike on the reverse (688 \$460), Tigranes III elephant to left (689 \$632.50), Tigranes III [II] elephant to right (690 withdrawn), Tigranes VI [IV] Heracles on the reverse (691 \$3220) and Victory with upright hands (692 and 693, \$2817.50 and \$2530), Tigranes VI and his queen [Tigranes IV and Queen Erato] (694 \$2070), Antiochus I Theos bronze with the lion of Commagene (704 \$2817.50). Also, the collection included Artaxata civic coins, bronze coins of Mithridates I Callinicus, and Mithridates II.

There is a great demand for rare, scarce, and quality Armenian coins. Therefore, it is not surprising to see a very strong performance and extremely good return for Armenian coins listed in the CNG auction 82. Except for a few relatively common bronze coins, the entire collection performed extremely well, far exceeding the expectation of some bidders and estimates suggested by the auction house.

¹ Classical Numismatic Group, inc., *Auction 82; A Mail Bid Sale* (Lancaster, PA, September 16, 2009), pp. 116-119, Nos. 678-706, illus.

² Tigranes VI (A.D. 60-61) was raised in Rome as a hostage. All Armenian historians regard him a protégé of Rome. He made Tigranocerta his capital. He needed the Roman legions to protect him. In fact, he never was able to set foot in Artaxata. Similar to other foreign rulers succeeding Tigranes V (A.D. 6) on the throne of the Artaxiad dynasty, he did not issue any coin. Rome deposed him in A.D. 61. Emperor Nero crowned Tiridates I in A.D. 66, in Rome, a king of the Armenian Arsacid dynasty. Tiridates was the brother of Parthian king Vologases I (Vagharsh) (A.D. 51-78). All Armenian sources agree on this. See, for example, H. Manandian, *A Critical Survey of the History of the Armenian People* (Erevan, 1944), Vol. I, pp. 339-355 (in Armenian); *History of the Armenian People* (Erevan, 1971) p. 740-764 (in Armenian), Vol. I, pp. 735-764; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1985), Vol. 11, p. 699 (in Armenian); J. de Morgan, *The History of the Armenian People*. (Boston, 1965), pp. 116-119; Nina Garsoïan, "The Emergence of Armenia," *The Armenian People from Ancient to Modern Times*, editor R. G. Hovannisian (New York, 1997), Vol. I, pp. 60-62.

The past history of two lots from this small collection is known. CNG 82 lots 686 and 691 were purchased from Spink's fixed price list *Numismatic Circular* of 1992. Artavasdes II coin was purchased for £195 and Tigranes V [IV] coin for £160, both of them for US\$639 (£355x1.80).³ Apparently, on just these two Armenian coins, the consigner's investment was multiplied better than seven times (\$4543.65÷639).

Obviously, some of the prices realized are extremely high. The bronze coin of Abdissares brought the highest price. The price of Tigranes V and VI [all of them Tigranes IV], and Antiochus I Theos were the next highest on the list. The collectors were offered an interesting auction performance in supply and demand. But what is pushing the price of Armenian coins so high? In December 1995, a bronze coin of Abdissares realized \$523.⁴ In 2009, a similar coin realized nearly nine times this price. In the 1980s, gold and silver bullion prices moved up as they did in 2009. Investors moved into the coin market pushing coin prices to a higher level. Similarly, the prices of Armenian coins moved up. Is history repeating itself?

According to the "prices realized" published by the CNG, all of the Armenian coins sold. The total estimates for 28 lots catalogued below was \$7,100 (lot 690 excluded) and this entire collection, sold netted \$34,848.45, nearly five times the estimate. The price quoted includes the sale price plus the 15% buyer's fee.

The auction catalogue was composed under the direction of CNG numismatists, and all coins listed were illustrated and some of them had enlargements. References included a few sources, Paul Z. Bedoukian,⁵ Y. T. Necessian,⁶ A. Mousheghian and G. Depeyrot,⁷ F. L. Kovacs,⁸ L. A. Saryan,⁹ Oliver Hoover,¹⁰ *Seleucid Coins*,¹¹ M. Amandry,¹² M. Alam,¹³ and *Roman Provincial Coinage Supplement II*,¹⁴ The weights and die axis orientation for all coins were published. Legends of each coin was not published but field letters were indicated.

The statistical data is tabulated and offered to our readers as a useful guide to prevailing prices in 2009 and for posterity.

Y. T. NECESSIAN

³ In 1992, Spink charged \$1.80 per sterling for those who opted to pay in US dollars.

⁴ Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., *Auction 36: A Public & Mail Bid Sale* (Lancaster, Pennsylvania and London, England, December, 1995, p. 52, lot 537).

⁵ Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia* [CAA] (London, 1978); "Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene," *Museum Notes*, Vol. XXVIII (1983), pp. 71-88, pls. 11-12; reprinted in SNS II (Los Angeles, 2003), pp. 39-69, pls. 1-2.

⁶ Y. T. Necessian, *Armenian Coins and Their Values* [ACV] (Los Angeles, 1995); "Tigranes the Great of Armenia and the Mint of Damascus," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. XXII (1996), No. 1, pp. 3-13; reprinted in *Armenian Numismatic Studies* (Los Angeles, 2000), pp. 95-109, pls. 26-27.

⁷ Anahit Mousheghian and Georges Depeyrot, *Hellenistic and Roman Armenian Coinage (1st C.B.C.-1st C.A.D.)* (Wetteren, Belgium, 1999).

⁸ Frank L. Kovacs, "Tigranes IV, V, and VI: New Attributions," *American Journal of Numismatics*, Second Series, Vol. 20 (2008), pp. 337-350, pls. 81-82.

⁹ L. A. Saryan, "An Ancient bronze Depicting an Armenian Tiara," *Numismatic Circular*, Vol. XCIX (May 1991), No. 4, p. 112, illus.

¹⁰ Oliver D. Hoover, *Coins of the Seleucid Empire from the Collection of Arthur Houghton*, Part II (New York, 2007).

¹¹ A. Houghton and C. Lorber, *Seleucid Coins: A Comprehensive Catalog* (Lancaster, PA, 2002 and 2008).

¹² Michel Amandry, "Du Monnayage d'Artaxiasata et des soi-disant monnaies d'Aegospotami," *Bulletin de la Société Française de Numismatique*, Vol. 57 (November 2002), No. 9, pp. 173-177, illus.

¹³ Michael Alam, *Nomina Propria Iranica Nummis* (Vienna, 1986).

¹⁴ *Roman Provincial Coinage Supplément* (London and Paris, 1998).

CATALOGUE

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	US\$ Est.	US\$ Sold
678	Tigranes II	Æ Tyche of Damascus	CAA 109-11	VF	150	718.75
679		Æ Tyche of Damascus	CAA 112-3	VF	150	718.75
680		Æ Tyche of Antioch c/m	ACV 55	VF	150	373.75
681		Æ Tripod	CAA 122v	VF+	150	714.15
682		Æ Heracles	ACV 66	VF+	200	379.50
683		Æ Cornucopia	ACV 96	VF	150	201.25
684		Æ Tyche	CAA 93	VF	150	172.50
685	Tigranes II [I]	Æ Nike standing	CAA 6	F	200	1265.00
686	Artavasdes II	Æ Nike	CAA 132	VF	150	1323.65
687		Æ Nike o/s	CAA 132	-VF	150	1322.50
688	Tigranes III [II]	Æ Nike	CAA 120v	VF	150	460.00
689	Tigranes III	Æ Elephant to L	CAA 143	F	200	632.50
690	Tigranes III [II]	Æ Elephant to R	CAA 123	VF	200	withdrawn
691	Tigranes V [IV]	Æ Heracles	CAA 153-4	VF	500	3220.00
692	Tigranes VI [IV]	Æ Victory	CAA 148	VF	500	2817.50
693	Tigranes VI [IV]	Æ Victory	CAA 149	-VF	200	2530.00
694	Tigranes VI and his queen [Tigranes IV and Erato]	Æ Fortune seated				
695	Artaxata civic issue	Æ Head/Nike	CAA 161	F	500	2070.00
696		Æ Head/date	Amandry A	VF	300	714.15
697		Æ Head of Nike/ palm	Amand. B.1	F	300	632.50
698		Æ Head/grain ear	Amand. B.2	F	200	603.75
699	Armenia [Commagene]	Æ Head/grain ear	Amand. C.2	F	200	1092.50
700	Abdissares	Æ Tiara/horse	ACV 244	VF	200	230.00
701	Uncertain, Commagene	Æ Eagle standing	ACV 15	VF	500	4600.00
702	Mithridates I Callinicus	AR Head/ cornucopia	Hoover IVA	VF	200	149.50
703		Æ Club	AC 193	F	200	546.25
704	Antiochus I Theos	Æ Nike	---	-VF	200	1035.00
705		Æ Lion of Commagene	ACV 196	VF	500	2817.50
706	Mithridates II	Æ Bull	Alram 247	F	150	2185.00
	Asinualus Media-Atropatene	Æ Quadriga	Alram 248	F+	500	1322.50

**Ճ. Ս. ՈՒԱԳՆԵՐԻ ՀԱՒԱՔԱԾՈՑԻՆ
ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐՈՒՆ ԱՃՈՒՐԴԸ**

[Ամփոփում]

Հայկական դրամներու փոքր ժողովածոյ մը աճուրդով վաճառուեցաւ Կլասիկալ Նիւմիսմատիկ Գրուպ Հնագիտական վաճառքի ընկերութեան կողմէ, 16 Սեպտեմբեր 2009-ին: Դրամներու մեծամասնութիւնը կը պատկանէր Ճ. Ս. Ուազների ժողովածոյին:

Ժողովածոն կազմուած էր 29 կտոր դրամներէ՝ Մոփք (1 հատ), Արտաշէսեան Հարստութիւն (17), Արտաշատի քաղաքային դրամներ (4), Կոմագենէ (6), Մեդիա-Ատրպատական (1):

Տարօրինակ պատճառով մը՝ ցուցակագրութեան դրամներու վերագրումը չէր հետեւած Պետկեանի-Ներսէսեանի աւանդական վերագրութեան: Ուր որ ստորագրեալը չէ համաձայնած վերագրութեան, քառակուսի փակագիծներու մէջ նշած է ուղիղ վերագրումը, օրինակի համար Տիգրան 2 [Դ]:

Դասակարգած դրամները կը պատկանին հետեւեալներուն՝ Արդիսարէս (թիւ 700, ծախուած \$4600), Տիգրան Մեծի Դամասկոսի բրոնզէ դրամներ (678 և 679, իւրաքանչիւրը \$718.85), եռոտանիի պատկերով բրոնզ մը (781 \$714.15), Տիգրան Բ Ա-ի Յաղթանակի պատկերով դրամ մը ուր արքայի կիսանդրին ձախ կը հայի (685 \$1265), Արտաւազդ Բ-ի բրոնզներ Յաղթանակի պատկերով (686 \$1323.65, 687 \$1322.50), Տիգրան Գ [Բ]-ի փոքրածաւալ բրոնզէ դրամ մը Յաղթանակի պատկերով (688 \$460), Տիգրան Գ-ի դէպի ձախ փիղի պատկերով բրոնզ մը (689 \$632.50), Տիգրան Գ [Բ]-ի դէպի աջ փիղի պատկերով բրոնզ մը (690, աճուրդէն դուրս հանուած), Տիգրան Զ [Դ]-ի բրոնզէ դրամ մը Վահագնի պատկերով (691 \$3220), թւերը վեր բարձրացուցած Յաղթանակի պատկերով բրոնզներ (692 և 693, \$2817.50 և \$2530), Տիգրան Զ և իր թագուհին [Տիգրան Դ և Երատոյ թագուհի]-ի բրոնզ մը ուր ետին Բախտը նստած է (694 \$2070), Անտիոքոս Ա Թէոս ուր ետին պատկերուած է Կոմագենէի առիւծը (704 \$2817.50): Նաև ցուցակագրուած են Արտաշատի քաղաքային բրոնզէ դրամներ, Կոմագենէի Միհրդատ Ա-ի և Բ-ի դրամներ:

Հաւաքորդներու կողմէ մեծ պահանջ կայ հազուադիւս ու չափազանց հազուադիւս և որակաւոր հայկական դրամներու համար: Ուրեմն զարմանալի պիտի չըլլար տեսնել խնդրոյ առարկայ աճուրդին մէջի հայկական դրամներուն բարձր գիներով վաճառուիլը, ի քանգուեալ քանի մը կտոր հասարակ բրոնզէ դրամներուն:

Սակայն չուկային երկնաւաղքը սովորականէն քիչ մը շատ աւելի բարձր է: Օրինակի համար, 1995-ին Արդիսարէսի բրոնզէ դրամ մը ծախուեցաւ \$523-ի, այսօր՝ նման դրամ մը չուկայի վրայ բերաւ \$4600 վերջնական գին, գրեթէ ինը անգամ բազմապատկուած:

Աճուրդի ընկերութեան նախնական գնահատումը 28 կտոր դրամներու համար (թիւ 690-ը դուրս ձգուած) \$7100 է: Ըստ իրենց հրատարակած ծախուած դրամներու գնահատումի ցանկագրութեան՝ 28 կտոր դրամները ծախուեցան \$34,848.45-ի, նախնական գնահատումին գրեթէ հեզապատիկը:

Մեր քննարկած դրամներու գիները կը ներկայացնեն ցանկագրուած վերջնական գնահատումները, առաւել զնոյններու համար սահմանուած 15 առ հարիւր վճարումը:

Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեան

A FORGED TETRADRACHM OF TIGRANES OF ARMENIA DEPICTING A KANTHAROS

Forgeries of the silver coinage of Tigranes the Great of Armenia seem to be proliferating like never before.¹ Most of these fakes are attempts to faithfully reproduce the coins of Armenia's most powerful pre-Christian king, but some are modern fantasies which have no parallel in the ancient numismatic record. The new forgery presented in this article combines features of the genuine silver tetradrachm coinage of Tigranes² with added indicia confirming that the piece is nothing more than a modern fabrication.



Fig. 1. Tigranes Tetradrachm with *Kantharos* Forgery

¹ Several Artaxiad forgeries which have surfaced in the past few years have been described in the pages of this journal. See, for example, L. A. Saryan, "A Drachm Forgery of Tigranes the Great," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 24, No. 4 (December 1998), pp. 49-50; Y. T. Nercessian, "Tigranes II Counterfeit Tetradrachm with Imperial Countenance Portrait," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 32, No. 4 (December, 2006), p. 73; L. A. Saryan, "Further Comments on a Newly-Reported Counterfeit Tigranes Tetradrachm," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 33, No. 2 (June 2007), p. 34; L. A. Saryan, "Counterfeit Coins of Tigranes the Great from Baalbek," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 34, No. 2 (June 2008), p. 37; L. A. Saryan, "A Questionable Heracles-Reverse Silver of Tigranes the Great," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 35, No. 2 (June 2009), pp. 57-58.

² Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian, in his seminal *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia* (London: Royal Numismatic Society, 1978), does not list a similar coin in his corpus. Y. T. Nercessian, in *Silver Coinage of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia* (Los Angeles: Armenian Numismatic Society, 2006), presents over a thousand known genuine silver coins and some forgeries of Tigranes the Great. The piece illustrated and discussed in this paper does not appear in Nercessian's monograph.

In November 2009, a hitherto unknown silver “tetradrachm” of Tigranes was offered for sale on an internet auction site by a seller from Bulgaria.³ The lot eventually sold for only \$158.50 plus shipping, considerably less than a genuine coin in similar preservation would bring in the marketplace. The piece is described in detail below:

Obverse: Bust of Tigranes the Great of Armenia, clean shaven and facing right, wearing the characteristic five-peaked Armenian tiara with an eight-pointed star flanked by two eagles. King Tigranes wears a diadem tied behind the head. A drape edged with pearls or precious stones covers the ear and neck, fillet border.

Reverse: Statue of the Tyche of Antioch facing right. The goddess, wearing a turreted crown, is seated on a rock and is holding a palm branch. A nude figure (the river god Orontes) is swimming in the water below. Greek legend reading downward, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ. A small Greek *kantharos*⁴ appears as a symbol in the left field between the legend and the border. Laurel wreath border.

Metrology and Provenance: According to the listing this piece is silver, 16.81 grams, and 28 mm diameter. The die axis of this example appears to be 12 h. It was stated to be located in Spain, although the seller himself is located in Razgrad, Bulgaria.

Although the seller asserts that “all of my coins are 100% authentic,” careful examination of this piece reveals numerous worrisome elements. Portions of the obverse headdress deviate in several respects from depictions on familiar Tigranes Antioch tetradrachms. The peaks of the tiara are drawn as ordinary triangles with simple lines. While the diadem appears to be tied at the back, the loose ends which typically hang down behind the king’s head are missing. The style of the ear and neck covering is incorrect. The base of the king’s neck and the fillet border are likewise faulty.

On the reverse, the letters in the legend are small and crudely formed, the Tyche is seated off-center and leaning too far forward, and her palm branch is poorly drawn. Without a doubt, however, the most curious feature of the reverse is the presence of a small *kantharos* field mark located at the extreme left of the flan, between the legend and the border. This symbol has never been seen on Armenian coinage heretofore and does not have any known connection with Armenian numismatic tradition. The presence of the *kantharos* definitely reveals this piece to be a modern concoction.

The weight and diameter provided in the sale listing also give ample reason to doubt the authenticity of this piece. The piece is about 1 gram heavier and about 2 millimeters larger than a typical Tigranes Antioch tetradrachm. Judging from the photograph, the surface of the metal has the grainy appearance of a cast. Notches on the edge of the flan, added to simulate authentic coins, are unconvincing. One could speculate that this piece is a cast using new dies made by the

³ EBay lot 130344506889, seller djon-edgar, sale closing date November 15, 2009. Unfortunately, eBay purges sale data very quickly. Therefore, in order to preserve images and data for future reference, details of the sale listing including the photograph were uploaded to the zeno.ru oriental coins database. See <http://www.zeno.ru/showphoto.php?photo=77265>.

⁴ A *kantharos* is a Greek drinking vessel or vase with high handles on each side, ordinarily used for holding wine. It is very similar to an amphora, which is typically a taller vase with handles on each side that do not extend above the mouth of the vessel. Various sources describe the symbol on appearing on this and related forgeries either as a *kantharos* or an amphora.

forger. The fact that the seller is located in Bulgaria should also give pause, since it is well known that numerous forgery workshops exist in that country.⁵

I contacted the seller by e-mail, pointing out that the item offered did not match the coin was overweight and that its style was faulty. The seller replied that the coin was genuine but was unable to provide cogent arguments to support this claim. In a subsequent communication he did suggest that more examples might be available! Although eBay requires sellers to affirm that coins offered are genuine, in practice this requirement is routinely ignored and no action is taken against the seller.

It seems that the *kantharos* which appears on this false coin is the signature of the workshop where the piece was prepared. This conclusion is based on a review of related forgeries published on internet websites.⁶ Similar symbols are incorporated into the design of a wide variety of ancient coin forgeries attributed to countries as far apart as Armenia and Brittany, and dating from the 5th century B.C. to the 3rd century A.D. These pieces, of course, mostly have no historical relationship to each other. An incomplete list of these is offered⁷ to alert numismatists to the fact that forgeries depicting a small *kantharos* or amphora symbol are widespread.

This new forgery constitutes yet further evidence of the popularity of early Armenian coins, and emphasizes the importance of careful study and examination before newly revealed Armenian coins are accepted as genuine. Further research is required to identify the workshop which produced this Tigranes forgery.

L. A. SARYAN, Ph.D.

⁵ Wayne G. Sayles, *Classical Deception: Counterfeits, Forgeries and Reproductions of Ancient Coins* (Iola, WI: Krause Publications, 2001), pp. 61-65, 97. I am indebted to Mr. Sayles for helpful discussions regarding this coin. This particular forgery was not necessarily made in Bulgaria; it could have originated in any of several countries in the eastern Mediterranean area.

⁶ See especially "Dr. Ilya Prokopov's Fake Ancient Coin Reports," a numismatic database hosted by Forum Ancient Coins, www.forumancientcoins.com/fakes/search.php.

⁷ Most of these forgeries listed below are illustrated and briefly described on the Forum Ancient Coins website www.forumancientcoins.com/fakes/search.php. A few were taken from a review of internet sales in 2009. 1. Armorica, Celtic AR drachm, date not indicated, riders in *biga* proceeding left, amphora on right/galley. 2. Thrace, Sparadokos AR tetradrachm (ca. 440 BC), horseman and *kantharos*/eagle and snake, legend. 3. Macedonia, Philip II (359-336 BC), AR tetradrachm, head of Zeus facing right/naked youth on horse, *kantharos* or amphora below (multiple variations). 4. Macedonia, Philip II (359-336 BC), AR tetradrachm, head of Zeus facing left/naked youth on horse, *kantharos* or amphora below. 5. Armenia, Tigranes II (95-56 BC), AR tetradrachm, reverse *kantharos* (illustrated and described in this paper). 6. Rome, Augustus (27 BC-14 AD), AE, Augustus facing right/Caius and Lucius with amphora. 7. Rome, Augustus (27 BC-14 AD), AE 23, Augustus facing right/legend within wreath, *kantharos*. 8. Rome, era of Tiberius (14-37 AD), AE erotic tessaera, man and woman on bed, amphora below/numeral within wreath (multiple variations). 9. Rome, Philip I (244-249 A.D.), AE, three heads (Philip I, Philip II, and Otacilia Severa)/temple of Apollo and amphora. 10. Rome, Otacilia Severa (ca. 244-249 A.D.), AE sestertius, diademed and draped bust of Otacilia Severa right/hippopotamus with *kantharos* or amphora. These fakes show minor variations in the exact style of the symbol. Therefore, no claim is made that the same forger or even the same workshop produced all of these forgeries.

BOOK REVIEW

SHAHEN HOVSEPIAN, *Parskakan Dramner Togharkvadz Yerevan Kaghakoum: 16rt dari skzbits minchev 19rt dari skizbe* [Persian Coins Issued in the City of Yerevan from the Beginning of 16th Century to the Beginning of the 19th Century], (Tehran, 2008). Hardcover, 8½ x 12 inch format; illustrated 16-page text in Armenian, plus 85 enlarged photographic plates with captions in Armenian and Farsi.

Interest in the coins struck in Armenia by Moslem rulers and dynasties has grown in recent years, and this new work was written to address this interest. For several centuries (until its conquest by Russia in 1828) much of northeastern Armenia was controlled by the shahs of Persia, who struck coins in the major centers of Caucasia including the cities of Yerevan, Nakhichevan, and Gandzak. These coins are often masterpieces of calligraphy but only rarely carry figural devices.

The role played by the Armenians in this work was not insignificant. The Persian mint in Yerevan, for example, was often operated by Armenian mintmasters.¹ This is a topic that has yet to be explored in depth.

This book covers the gold, silver, and copper coins struck in Yerevan over a period of three centuries. Coins of the following rulers are presented in this volume: Tahmasp I (1524-1576); Mohammad Khutabande (1578-1585); Abbas I (1587-1629); Safi I (1629-1642); Abbas II (1642-1666); Suleiman I/Safi II (1666-1694); Sultan Huseyin I (1694-1722); Tahmasp II (1722-1731); Abbas III (1731-1736); Nadir Shah (1737-1747); Sharokh Shah (1748-1796); Kerimkhan Shah (1750-1779); and Fath Ali Shah (1797-1835).

The book consists of a 16-page illustrated introduction in Armenian, plus 85 full page plates, one coin (both sides) per page. To the extent possible, data for each coin is provided. Illustrations are enlarged to enable readers to visualize details of each piece.

The author has a basic understanding of numismatics and is clearly familiar with the context of the coins he has gathered. Readers who are fluent in Armenian will find this a useful addition to the literature on this topic. Further information may be obtained by contacting the author at shahen_hovsepian@hotmail.com.

L. A. SARYAN, Ph.D.

¹ References to the administration of the Yerevan mint during Safavid times are scattered in various sources, such as George Bournoutian, trans., *The Journal of Zak'aria of Agulis* (Costa Mesa, CA: Mazda Publishers, 2003), pp. 128-129 and *passim*.

BOOK REVIEW

MUBAYAJYAN, V. A. *COINS MINTED IN THE CITIES YEREVAN, GANJA AND NAKHICHEVAN DURING THE PERSIAN DOMINATION 1500-1828 A.D.* – *МОНЕТЫ ЧЕКАНЕННЫЕ В ГОРОДАХ ЕРЕВАНЕ, ГЯНДЖЕ И НАХИЧЕВАНЕ В ПЕРИОД ПЕРСИДСКОГО ВЛАДЫЧЕСТВА 1500-1828 гг.* [Los Angeles: 2010], 171 pp., 34 plates inclusive, in Russian, 8 1/2" x 11" format, card cover, short run, 100 copies printed,\$30 + shipping. e-mail: valmub@dslextre.me.com

The book before us is a catalog of 299 coins struck in the cities of Yerevan, Nakhichevan, and Ganja (Gandzak) from the 16th to the 19th centuries. These coins are inscribed in Arabic or Persian script and issued in the name of various Persian and Ottoman rulers and dynasties, such as the Safavids, Afsharids, Zands, Qajars, Ottoman Turks, and few others. After the fall of the Armenian kingdom, Armenia was under the rule of the Persians and Ottomans, who struck coins inscribed with Arabic letters in the mints of Armenia. This is a part of Armenian history.

The author, Valeri Mubayajyan, is the grandson of the famous numismatist Atrpet (Sargis Mubayajyan, 1860-1937), who wrote several numismatic studies in the early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the book a summarized history is provided for the cities of Yerevan, Ganja, and Nakhichevan. For each ruler, Mubayajyan offers a brief biography, then notes the denominations of coins he issued and the mints where his coins were struck. Tables of the Persian and Arabic alphabets are presented, with a two-page bibliography and table of contents.

The first coin is catalogued is a two shahi (7.82 grams, 25 mm) struck in Yerevan in AH 928 by the Safavid Shah Ismail I (906-930 AH/AD 1501-1524). The last Safavid coin was issued by Shah Abbas III (1145-1148 AH/AD 1732-1735), a one abbasi struck in Yerevan in AH 1148 (5.48 grams, 25.5 mm). The last coins catalogued are a silver half onluk dated 1143 AH of Ottoman Sultan Mahmud I (1143-1168 AH/AD 1730-1754), struck in Ganja (2.6 grams, 18 mm), and a silver one onluk dated AH 1143 attributed to the same sultan (5.4 grams, 22 mm, 1.7 mm thick).

The coin photographs are clear and in many cases they are slightly oversized, making the inscriptions easily legible. Line drawings of the Yerevan, Ganja, and Nakhichevan coins, for different rulers, arms the novice with sufficient information to navigate the book with relative confidence.

Reading this book and examining the plates is a pleasant experience. At the same time it makes one sad to realize that for so many centuries the Armenian people suffered under the yoke of foreign rulers.

Coins Minted in the Cities Yerevan, Ganja and Nakhichevan During the Persian Domination 1500-1828 A.D. is a very useful reference book and will be indispensable for every serious student of numismatics interested in the coinage of historical Armenia and the Near and Middle East.

Y. T. Nercessian

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

(cont. from p. 60)

Բախառով. Արտաշատի քաղաքային բրոնզե դրամներ, որոնց ետին պատկերում է Յաղթանակը դէպի ձախ, Թուականը, արմաւենի մը երիզով կապում, ցորեն. Կոմագենէ, բրոնզ մը որու երեսին պատկերում է Հայկական խորը մր/ձի, Կոմագենէ (անորոշ) դրամ մը ընդօրինակում Սելեկիոյ Տեմետրիոս Սոթերի դրամէն, Միհրդատ Ա Կալլինիկոս (96-70 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզներ որոնց ետին պատկերում է լախտ, Յաղթանակ, Անտիոքոս Ա Թէոս (69-34 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզ մը Կոմագենէի առիւծին նկարով, Միհրդատ Բ (36-20 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզ մը որ արձանազրում է Անտիոքոս Ա Թէոսի և Միհրդատ Բ-ի անուններով, ետին ցուլ մը. Մետիա-Աղբալատականի Ասիննալոսի (չուրը 30 Ն.Ք.) բրոնզ մը որու ետին քանդակում է քառաձի մարտաքառք մը. Իւրաքանչիւր դրամի համար տրուած է կշիռն ու ատանձքային ուղղութիւնը:

ԵԹՆ

15 IBNS. New Issues: Armenia. *IBNS*, Vol. 48 (2009), No. 4, p. 11, illus.

See ANJ 2010, p. 37, abstract of No. 8.

16 MUBAYAJYAN, V. A. Monety Chekanennye v gorodakh Erevane, Gĭandzhe i Nakhichevane v period persidskogo vladychestva 1500-1828 gg. [Coins Minted in the Cities Yerevan, Ganja and Nakhichevan During the Persian Domination 1500-1828 A.D. – *Монеты чеканенны в городах Ереване, Гяндже и Нахичеване в период персидского владычества 1500-1828 гг.*, автор В. А. Мубаяджян. [Los Angeles: 2010], 171 pp., 34 plates inclusive, in Russian.

Islamic coins struck in the cities of Yerevan, Nakhichevan, and Ganja are described and assigned to the following: Shah Ismail I (906-930 AH/AD 1501-1524), Shah Tahmasp I (930-984 AH/AD 1524-1576), Shah Ismail II (984-985 AH/AD 1576-1578), Muhammad Khodabande (985-995 AH/AD 1578-1587), Shah Abbas I (996-1038 AH/AD 1587-1629), Shah Safi I (1038-1052 AH/AD 1629-1642), Shah Abbas II (1052-1077 AH/AD 1642-1666), Shah Safi II or Suleyman I (1077-1105 AH/AD 1666-1694), Shah Safi II (1077-1078 AH), Shah Sultan Huseyn I (1105-1135 AH/AD 1694-1722), Shah Tahmasp II (1135-1145 AH/AD 1722-1732), Shah Abbas III (1145-1148 AH/AD 1732-1735), Nadir Shah (1148-1160 AH/AD 1735-1747), Ibrahim Shah (1161-1162 AH/AD 1748-1749), Karim Shah Zand (1166-1193 AH/AD 1753-1779), Shah Sadik Khan (1193-1196 AH/AD 1779-1788), Ali Murad Khan Zand (1193-1199 AH/AD 1779-1785), Shah Verdi Khan (1160-1174 AH/AD 1747-1760), Muhammad Hasan Khan (1174-1195 AH/AD 1760-1780), Jafar al Javad Khan (1200-1220 AH/AD 1785-1805), Muhammad Hasan Khan (1163-1172 AH/AD 1750-1759), Agha Muhammad Khan (1193-1121 AH/AD 1779-1797), Fatih Ali Shah (1212-1250 AH/AD 1797-1834), Sultan Suleiman I (926-974 AH/AD 1520-1566), Sultan Murad III (982-1003 AH/AD 1574-1595), Sultan Mehmed III (1003-1012 AH/AD 1595-1603), Sultan Ahmed I (1012-1026 AH/AD 1603-1617), Sultan Osman II (1027-1031 AH/AD 1618-1617), Sultan Mustafa I (1031-1032 AH/AD 1622-1623), Sultan Murad IV (1032-1049 AH/AD 1623-1640), Sultan Ahmed III (1115-1143 AH/AD 1703-1730), Sultan Mahmud I (1143-1168 AH/AD 1730-1754). The first coin is catalogued is two shahi (7.82 grams, 25 mm) struck in Yerevan in AH 928 by the Safavid Shah Ismail I (906-930 AH/AD 1501-1524). The last Safavid coin was issued by Shah Abbas III (1145-1148 AH/AD 1732-1735), a one abbasi struck in Yerevan in AH 1148 (5.48 grams, 25.5 mm). The last coins catalogued are a silver half onluk dated 1143 AH of Ottoman Sultan Mahmud I (1143-1168 AH/AD 1730-1754), struck in Ganja (2.6 grams, 18 mm), and a silver one onluk dated AH 1143 attributed to the same sultan (5.4 grams, 22 mm, 1.7 mm thick).

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Երևան, Նախիջևան և Գանձակ քաղաքներուն մէջ կոխում և իրամական դրամներ նկարագրում ու տրուած են հետևեալներուն.– Շահ Իսմաիլ Ա (906-930 չ/ԲՔ 1501-1524), Շահ Թահմասպ Ա (930-984 չ/ԲՔ 1524-1576), Շահ Իսմաիլ Բ (984-985 չ/ԲՔ 1576-1578), Մուհամմադ Նուրաբանդէ (985-995

Հ/ԲՔ 1578-1587), Շահ Աբբաս Ա (996-1038 Հ/ԲՔ 1587-1629), Շահ Սահի Ա (1038-1052 Հ/ԲՔ 1629-1642), Շահ Աբբաս Բ (1052-1077 Հ/ԲՔ 1642-1666), Շահ Սաֆի Բ Կամ Սուլեյման Ա (1077-1105 Հ/ԲՔ 1666-1694), Շահ Սաֆի Բ (1077-1078 Հ), Շահ Սուլեյման Հուսեյն Ա (1105-1135 Հ/ԲՔ 1694-1722), Շահ Թահմազպ Բ (1135-1145 Հ/ԲՔ 1722-1732), Շահ Աբբաս Գ (1145-1148 Հ/ԲՔ 1732-1735), Նադիր Շահ (1148-1160 Հ/ԲՔ 1735-1747), Բըրահիմ Շահ Ա (1161-1162 Հ/ԲՔ 1748-1749), Քարիմ Շահ Զանդ (1166-1193 Հ/ԲՔ 1753-1779), Շահ Սադիկ իսան (1193-1196 Հ/ԲՔ 1779-1788), Ալի Մուրադ իսան Զանդ (1193-1199 Հ/ԲՔ 1779-1785), Շահ Վեդդի իսան (1160-1174 Հ/ԲՔ 1747-1760), Մուհամմեդ Հասան իսան (1174-1195 Հ/ԲՔ 1760-1780), Ճաֆար ալ Ճալադ իսան (1200-1220 Հ/ԲՔ 1785-1805), Մուհամմեդ Հասան իսան (1163-1172 Հ/ԲՔ 1750-1759), Աղա Մուհամմեդ իսան (1193-1121 Հ/ԲՔ 1779-1797), Ֆաթիհ Ալի Շահ (1212-1250 Հ/ԲՔ 1797-1834), Սուլեյման Սուլեյման Ա (926-974 Հ/ԲՔ 1520-1566), Սուլեյման Մուրադ Գ (982-1003 Հ/ԲՔ 1574-1595), Սուլեյման Մահմեդ Գ (1003-1012 Հ/ԲՔ 1595-1603), Սուլեյման Ահմեդ Ա (1012-1026 Հ/ԲՔ 1603-1617), Սուլեյման Օսման Բ (1027-1031 Հ/ԲՔ 1618-1617), Սուլեյման Մուսթաֆա Ա (1031-1032 Հ/ԲՔ 1622-1623), Սուլեյման Մուրադ Դ (1032-1049 Հ/ԲՔ 1623-1640), Սուլեյման Ահմեդ Գ I (1115-1143 Հ/ԲՔ 1703-1730), Սուլեյման Մահմուդ Ա (1143-1168 Հ/ԲՔ 1730-1754), Առաջին դրամը որ ցուցակագրուած է՝ երկու շահի է (7.82 գրամ, 25 մմ), կոխուած՝ Երևանի մէջ Հ 928-ին Սաֆեան Շահ Իսմաիլ Ա-ի կողմէ (906-930 Հ/ԲՔ 1501-1524)։ Վերջին Սաֆեան դրամը թողարկուած է Շահ Աբբաս Գ-ի կողմէ (1145-1148 Հ/ԲՔ 1732-1735), մէկ աբբասի դրամ մըն է կոխուած Երևանի մէջ Հ 1148 (5.48 գրամ, 25.5 մմ)։ Վերջին ցուցակագրուած դրամներն են արծաթեայ կէս օնլուք մը թուակրուած Հ 1143 վերագրուած Օսմանեան Սուլեյման Մահմուդ Ա-ի (1143-1168 Հ/ԲՔ 1730-1754), կոխուած՝ Գանձակ (2.6 գրամ, 18 մմ), և արծաթեայ մէկ օնլուք մըն է թուակրուած Հ 1143 վերագրուած նոյն սուլեյմանին (5.4 գրամ, 22 մմ, 1.7 մմ ճաստ)։ ԵՄԻՆ

- 17 NERCESSIAN, Y. T. Kilikya'daki Ermeni Krallığı Sikkeleri – Les Monnaies du Royaume Arménien de Cilicie, par Y. T. Nercessian. *La Collection de Monnaie de Pierre Willemart de la Fondation Suna et Inan Kirac*, editor, Oğuz Tekin. Istanbul: Suna ve Inan Kirac, Publication 3, pp. 9, 17-19, 54-58, Catalogue Nos. 339-351, illus. in color. Bilingual in Turkish and French. The publication is a catalogue of 556 pieces of coins preserved in the Museum of Pera. An historical background is given to the Armenian section, and "The Coins of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia" are described. Levon I (1198-1219), a double tram, a half double tram, two regular trams, a tank, a counterfeit tram; Hetoum I (1126-1270), a Hetoum-Zabel tram, a tank, two equestrian kardeztes; Levon II (1270-1289), a tram; Hetoum II (1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1305), a Kardez with king's head; Levon III (1301-1307), a Kardez. Metrological data including weight, diameter, die axis orientation, and Armenian legends are published. Paul Z. Bedoukian's *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* and Y. T. Nercessian's *Armenian Coins and Their Values* books are referenced.

Author

Հրատարակութիւնը ցուցակագրութիւն մըն է 556 կտոր դրամներու, պահպանուած՝ Բերայի Թանգարանին մէջ։ «Կիլիկիոյ Հայկական Թագաւորութեան դրամներու» բաժինը կը բովանդակէ 13 դրամներու օրինակներ։ Տրուած է պատմական ուրուագիծ մը և նկարագրուած են հետեւեալ թագաւորներու դրամները– Լևոն Ա (1198-1219), երկդրամ մը, կէս երկդրամ մը, երկու հասարակ դրամներ, դրանգ մը, Հէթում Ա (1226-1270), Հէթում-Ջապէլի հասարակ դրամ մը, դանգ մը, ձիավոր քարտէզ մը, Լևոն Բ (1270-1289), դրամ մը, Հէթում Բ (1289-1293, 1295-1296, 1299-1305), քարտէզ մը թագաւորի հայոց կիսանդրով։ Լևոն Գ. (1301-1307), քարտէզ մը, Ջափագիտական տունակներ կը պարունակեն քաշը, տրամագիծը և առանցքային ուղղութիւնը, և հրատարակուած են խորագրութիւնները։ Վկայագրուած են Ջարեհ Գ. Պտուկեանի կիլիկեան Հայաստանի դրամները և Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեանի Հայկական դրամներն ու իրենց արժէքները գրեթէ։ Հեղինակը

- 18 RADIOLUR. Patmut'ian T'angaranê Hamalruats ê 1200 nor Ts'uts'annushnerov [The Collection of the History Museum is Completed with 1200 New Exhibit Examples] - Պատմութեան Թանգարանը Համալրուած է 1200 նոր ցուցանմուշներով. Asbarez, Vol. 101

(Friday, 18 December 2009), No. 13667, p. 11, illus. In Armenian.
The History Museum of Armenia has received 1200 new exhibition material which also includes numismatics. YTN

Հայաստանի Պատմության Թանգարանը համալրում է 1200 նոր ցուցանմուշներով, որ նաև կը պարունակէ դրամագիտութիւն: ԵԹՆ

18 SARYAN, Levon A. Fake Ancient Coins Abound on eBay, by Leon Saryan. *The Centinel*, Vol. 57 (Winter 2009-2010), No. 4, pp. 12 and 14, illus.
See ANJ 2010, p. 23, abstract of No. 5.

LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

Մեզ մօտ աշխատանքներն ընթանում են իրենց հունով, բայց ժամանակն արագ է թռչում ու չի բաւականացնում: Հայ դրամագիտութեան մասին, իհարկէ, չեմ մոռացել, աւելին՝ խրվել եմ Լևոն I-ի դրամների մէջ, սակայն այլ գործերի և հարկադիր ընդհատումների պատճառով աշխատանքը մի քիչ ձգձգւում է: Ստացուող արդիւնքները ոգևորիչ են, բայց նաև՝ շատ աշխատատար ու յոգնեցուցիչ: Յուսով եմ շուտով աւարտել կատալոգը (830 AR, 204 AE)՝ նոր դասակարգմամբ, որը կազմում եմ անգլերեն լեզուով: Հետապօտական մասը պատրաստ կը լինի քիչ աւելի ուշ: ...

Ռուս-պարսկական պատերազմին նուիրում մեղալներից ունենք...

Ռուս-թուրքական պատերազմների առիթով թողարկումս ուսական մեղալներից ունենք...

Ռուբէն Վարդանեան

To *Armenian Numismatic Journal*:

Three of us myself, Ara and Levon, have purchased close to 1500 Cilician coppers. I would like to put together a guide for people to identify the copper coins in a quick manner. As you know, most are poorly struck with partial legends, however their size and designs can also be used.

I believe we may have come across a few Levon II tanks. They are about the size of a He-toum tank but are lighter in weight. We have come across smaller kardez of Levon II. Could there be an in-between coin between the kardez and tanks for Levon II? Levon S. feels that for coppers they probably went by diameter and not weight.

Gosdantin III and Gosdantin IV copper pogs are rare. If people have images they would be willing to share, we would be excited to receive them. Feel free to email the images to hajinian@yahoo.com. We are looking for the throne the king sits on to be the distinguishing factor. I believe King Oshin might have a unique throne for his pogs. It is a theory to help identify the poorly struck copper coins of the later kings.

We are also working on the idea of having an Armenian Numismatic and Antiquities convention for two days in Chicago in the near and distant future. This would be a chance to develop relationships and meet some of the members.

Thoughts? Suggestions appreciated. After working on these coins for the past year, I have a slight idea of all the work you have done to produce your books, I am truly grateful for your efforts.
Chuck Hajinian, DDS

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

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April 2010



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ARMENIAN

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NUMISMATIC

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ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Series II

Vol. 6 (36), No. 4

December 2010

ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԵՍԻ ՎԵՐԱՏՊՈՒՄ

Երեսուն վեց տարի առաջ երբ սկսանք հրատարակել Հայ Դրամագիտական Հանդեսը, անելորդ օրինակները պահեստի դրուեցան 10 տրցակնոց թուղթի խաւաքարտէ տուփերու մէջ:

Երբ մեր տարիքը յառաջացաւ ու կոնակի և մէջքի ցաւերը սկսան, ՀԴՀ-ի համարներով լցնուն տուփերուն քաջը անտանելի եղաւ:

Մօտաւորապէս տասը տարի առաջ որոշուեցաւ պահել ՀԴՀ-ի հին օրինակները աւելի փոքր և 5-տրցակնոց խաւաքարտէ տուփերու մէջ. յուսալով, որ տարիքոտ անձի մը համար աւելի դիւրին պիտի ըլլալ պանոնք վերցնել:

Այդ օրէն իվեր, ՀԴՀ-ի թողարկումները, հատոր I-էն սկսելով, վետեղուեցան երեսուն տարբեր տուփերու մէջ ու շարուեցան չորս շարքով իրարու վրայ:

Վերջին տասնամեակի ընթացքին ՀԴՀ-ի հին համարներէն ոմանք ծախուեցան և ուրիշներ անփութութեամբ մտան սխալ տուփերու մէջ: Ժամանակը պատե՛հ նկատուեցաւ հաշուելշոյի մը համար, հակառակ որ, այսօր 5-տրցակնոց տուփերը շատ ծանր կը կշռեն ՀԴՀ-ի խմբագրի մէջքին վրայ:

ՀԴՀ-ի հին համարներէն ոմանք, հատոր I-էն III, լրիւ վերջացած են, ուրիշներ՝ հատոր հինգէն տասներկու, չունին լրիւ հատոր, սակայն ունին բազմաթիւ եռամսեայ համարներէն: Անշուշտ, ՀԴՀ-ի բոլոր օրինակներուն համար ունինք նկարներու տախտակներէն մեծաքանակ օրինակներ: Ունինք ետին մնացած ՀԴՀ-ի լրիւ երկու շարք՝ 1-35 (1975-2009) հատորներէն անկապմ վիճակի մէջ, ինչպէս նաև լրիւ երկու շարք՝ կազմուած:

Ապագային եթէ ապսպրանք տասնանք այս վաղ թողարկումներու համար, պիտի հարկադրուինք վերատպել ՀԴՀ-ի եռամսեային կամ ալ լրիւ հատորին միայն բնագրի (text) էջերէն:

Ե. Թ. Ներսիսեան

ARMENIAN NUMSMATIC JOURNAL TO BE REPRINTED

Thirty-six years ago, when we started publishing the *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, the extra copies were stored in cardboard boxes of 10-rim paper. At that time this was very convenient.

Eventually, as our age advanced and our back and lower back developed problems, the weight of ANJ old issues in 10-rim boxes became unbearable.

Nearly ten years ago, it was decided that the printed extra ANJ issues should be housed in smaller 5-rim cardboard containers. Hopefully, this would be lighter on the lower back of those senior citizens who would be lifting them.

Since then, all of the ANJ issues, starting from volume I, were stored in thirty different containers stacked in four rows on the top of each other.

During the course of the past decade some older issues of ANJ were sold and some others inadvertently moved into different containers. Hence, it was an opportune time to conduct an inventory in spite of the fact that today, a 5-rim case weighs very heavy on the lower back of the ANJ editor.

Some of the older issues of ANJ, like volumes I to III, have been completely sold out. Other issues like single volumes five to twelve have been sold out, but we have numerous quarterly issues. Of course, we have a very large supply of original plates for all ANJ issues. We have left only two sets of complete volumes, 1-35 (1975-2009), unbound ANJ issues, and two full sets of bound ANJ issues.

If we receive future orders for these early publications, we may have to reprint only the text-pages of these out of print ANJ quarterly issues or the complete volumes.

Y. T. Nercessian

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Y. T. Nercessian

COMPUTER CRASH

While downloading an attachment, our PC crashed. With the help of AOL "Technical Service," we have been able to restore our AOL connection to the Internet. However, all of the Armenian and foreign fonts have been damaged along with some computer components. The computer is working in a strange manner. We do know how long it will last. Because of the age of our computer, we are facing a dilemma, to have the computer repaired or purchase a new one?

We are requesting from our membership to avoid sending us an attachment. Instead, please send us your article on a CD or 3½-inch diskette and a hard copy. Your cooperation would be appreciated very much. Thank you.

Y. T. Nercessian

OBITUARY

Dr. Pierre Vahe Haig, 14 September 1917 to †12 January 2010

He was a member of the Armenian Numismatic Society since 1971. He contributed articles to the *Armenian Numismatic Journal*. He was a good friend and one of our advisors. He will be missed very badly.

LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

On Sunday, February 7, 2010, I gave an illustrated powerpoint presentation entitled "Armenia's Heritage on Modern Money" at Sts. Joachim and Anne Armenian Apostolic Church in Palos Heights, Illinois. The talk began with a brief introduction to ancient and medieval Armenian coins, and then discussed several coin and paper currency issues of Armenia from 1919 to the present. The modern issues of the Republic of Armenia and the Nagorno Karabagh Republic reflect Armenia's history, famous figures (poets, scientists, artists), and Christian heritage.

L. A. Saryan

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METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.)

(Section 7)

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

Palm-Branch Curved Left

No f/l

2 Chalcus

1	108	5.49g-17ø-1h	TG282
2	108	5.31g-18ø-1h	TG284
3	108	5.30g-18ø-1h	TG285
4	121	4.77g-19.2ø-12h	CT39
5	108	4.73g-17ø-12h	TG283
6	121	4.59g-18ø-12h	CT33

Avg. = 30.19+6 = 5.03g weight

Avg. = 107.2+6 = 17.87mm diameter

Avg. = 3/12h, 3/1h (6) die axis orient.

1 Chalcus

7	110	3.74g-18ø-1h	TG293
8	---	3.52g-17.3ø-12h	Er19992/71
9	109	3.40g-16ø	AC&B19-33
10	110	3.37g-17.5ø-1h	HM
11	121	3.07g-16ø	AC&B17A-304

Avg. = 17.10+5 = 3.42g weight

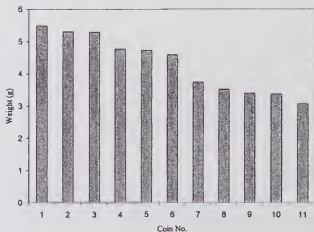
Avg. = 84.8+5 = 16.96mm diameter

Avg. = 1/12h, 2/1h (3) die axis orient.

Tot.Avg. = 47.29+11 = 4.30g weight

Tot.Avg. = 192.0+11 = 17.46mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 4/12h, 5/1h (9) die axis orient.



Ch. 2.56, Palm-branch curved, no f/l

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

o/s

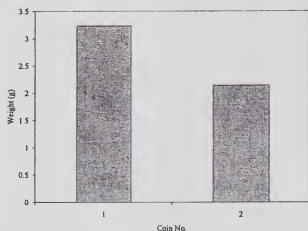
1 Chalcus

1	121	3.23g	SomeUnpub6PB
2	121	2.14g-13ø-12h	CT40

Tot.Avg. = 5.37+2 = 2.69g weight

Tot.Avg. = 13mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation



Ch. 2.57, Palm-branch curved, o/s

f/l ΔHMO, ΔHM, ΔHO or HM

4 Chalcus

1	121	6.98g-18ø-2h	Foss91
---	-----	--------------	--------

Avg. = 6.98g weight

Avg. = 18mm diameter

Avg. = 1/2h die axis orientation

2 Chalcus

2	121	5.72g	CNGRev.XX2-153
3	107	5.61g-20ø-1h	TG290
4	---	5.31g-19.4ø-12h	Er19184/3
5	107	5.29g-19ø-12h	TG289
6	121	5.21g	NK1120
7	121	5.20g	CAA121PB
8	121	5.17g-17.5ø-12h	YNCat194
9	121	5.12g-19ø	AC&B20-14
10	121v	5.09g	Gorny142-1656

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
-----	------------	---	--------

2 Chalci

11	121	4.86g	CAA121JG
12	121	4.81g-17ø	MA30
13	121	4.80g-18ø-12h	JN99PC
14	107	4.78g-17ø-12h	TG291
15	107	4.70g-19ø-1h	JN100HT
16	107	4.70g-17ø-12h	JN101HT
17	107	4.68g-20ø-12h	AC&B19-32
18	121	4.67g-20ø-12h	YNCat195
19	121	4.66g-19ø	AC&B9A-20
20	121	4.62g-20ø	AC&B11-27
21	121	4.60g-18ø	AC&B14-16
22	121	4.58g	CAA121PB
23	121	4.53g-18ø	Foss92
24	121	4.50g	Gorny46-351
25	121	4.50g	MD40Aufhäuser
26	121	4.49g-12h	Lanz56-230
27	121	4.47g-16ø	Foss95
28	121	4.29g	MD40GD
29	121	4.25g	CAA121PB
30	121	4.24g-16ø	AC&B15-22
31	108v	4.19g-18.5ø-12h	HM
32	---	4.16g-17ø-1h	Er19035/5
33	121	4.15g-18ø	CAA121BN
34	121	4.13g	CAA121BN
35	121	4.07g-18ø	Foss93BM
36	109	3.88g-18ø	AC&B19-34
37	121	3.87g-19.5ø	AC&B13-18
38	108	3.81g-14ø-12h	AC&B18-50

Avg. = 171.71+37 = 4.64g weight

Avg. = 452.9+29 = 15.56mm diameter

Avg. = 11/12h, 3/1h (14) die axis orient.

1 Chalcus

39	121	3.76g	CAA121JG
40	---	3.74g-17.6ø-12h	Er19614/24
41	121	3.70g	CAA121VM
42	105	3.69g-18ø	CNG36-596
43	121	3.49g-18ø	Foss94
44	107	3.45g	CNG20-394
45	109	3.42g-18ø	EJ33
46	121	3.40g-15ø	Foss96
47	121	3.31g-10h	HAC131
48	107	3.10g-19ø-12h	TG287
49	107	3.10g-18ø-12h	TG288

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
-----	------------	---	--------

50	121	3.08g-16ø-11h	YNCat197
51	107	2.97g-16ø-12h	TG286
52	108	2.87g-17ø	CNG51-759
53	108	2.84g-17ø-11h	YNCat196
54	108	2.76g	NK1119
55	121	2.65g	CAA121GM
56	---	2.24g-17.6ø-12h	Er19517/3

Avg. = 57.57+18 = 3.20g weight

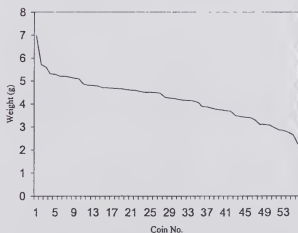
Avg. = 207.2+12 = 17.27mm diameter

Avg. = Avg. = Die axis 1/10h, 2/11, 5/12h (8) die axis orientation

Tot.Avg. = 236.26+56 = 4.22g weight

Tot.Avg. = 678.1+38 = 17.84mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 1/10h, 2/11h, 16/12, 3/1h, 1/2h (23) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.58, Palm-branch curved, ΔHMO, ΔHM, ΔHO or HM

f/1 H

2 Chalci

1	108v	5.27g-17ø-1h	HM
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Avg. = 5.27g weight
Avg. = 17mm diameter
Avg. = 1/1h die axis orientation

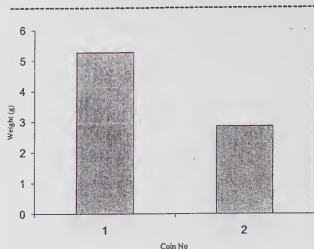
f/1 M

1 Chalcus

2	107	2.85g-17ø-12h	TG292
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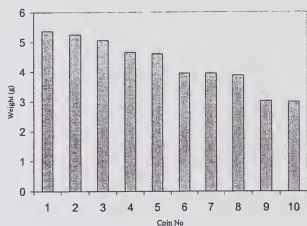
Avg. = 2.85g weight
Avg. = 17mm diameter
Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation

No. CAA Metrological Data Source
ACV wt.-diam.-die axis



Ch. 2.59, Palm-branch curved, f/l H, M

Tot.Avg. = $8.12 \div 2 = 4.06$ g weight
Tot.Avg. = $34 \div 2 = 17$ mm diameter
Tot.Avg. = 1/12, 1/2h (2) die axis orient.



Ch. 2.60, Palm-branch straight, no f/l

Palm-Branch, Straight

No f/l

2 Chalci

1	110v	5.37g-19ø-12h	TG274
2	110v	5.25g-19ø-12h	TG270
3	110v	5.06g	CNG27-22
4	110v	4.66g-18ø-12h	TG269
5	121	4.60g-16ø-12h	JN102HT
6	110v	3.95g-16ø-1h	TG268
7	110v	3.95g-16ø-12h	TG273
8	110v	3.88g-18ø-12h	TG271

No. CAA Metrological Data Source
ACV wt.-diam.-die axis

9	110v	3.02g-16ø-12h	TG272
10	110	2.99g-14.5ø-12h	CT32

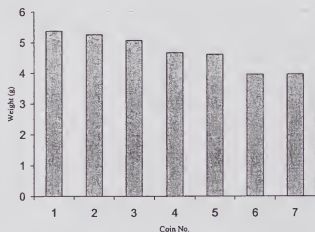
Tot.Avg. = $42.73 \div 10 = 4.27$ g weight
Tot.Avg. = $152.5 \div 9 = 16.94$ mm diameter
Tot.Avg. = 8/12h, 1/1h (9) die axis orient.

f/l ΔHMO, ΔHM or HMO

2 Chalci

1	110	5.19g-16ø	EJ34
2	110	4.67g-16ø-12h	YNCat198
3	110	4.33g-17ø	Foss97
4	110	4.20g-18ø-12h	YNCat199
5	110	4.15g-17ø	CNG36-594
6	110	3.87g	Lind1985A1743A
7	110	3.84g-15ø	Foss98

Tot.Avg. = $30.25 \div 7 = 4.32$ g weight
Tot.Avg. = $99 \div 6 = 16.5$ mm diameter
Tot.Avg. = 2/12h die axis orientation



Ch. 2.61, Palm-branch straight, ΔHMO, ΔHM, or ΔHO

f/l HK

1 Chalci

1	110	3.42g-17ø-12h	JCh
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Avg. = 3.42g weight
Avg. = 17mm diameter
Avg. = 1/12h die axis orient.

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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f/l H

2 Chalci

2	110v	5.03g-19ø-12h	TG274
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Avg. = 5.03g weight

Avg. = 19mm diameter

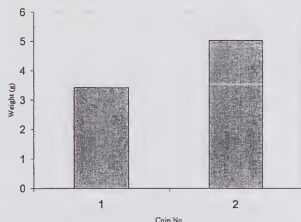
Avg. = 1/12h die axis orient.

Tot.Avg. = $8.45 \div 2 = 4.23$ g weight

Tot.Avg. = $36 \div 2 = 18.00$ mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 2/12h (2) die axis orientation

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Ch. 2.62, Palm-branch straight, f/l HK, H

Table 2.19, Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of Tigranes II coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Weight
Palm-branch curved, no f/l	11	4.30g
Palm-branch curved, o/s	2	2.69g
Palm-branch curved, ΔHMO, ΔHM, ΔHO or HM	56	4.22g
Palm-branch curved, f/l H, M	2	4.06g
Palm-branch straight, no f/l	10	4.27g
Palm-branch straight, f/l ΔHMO, ΔHM, or ΔHO	7	4.32g
Palm-branch straight, f/l HK, H	2	4.23g
Total	90	

Table 2.20a Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Tigranes II coppers

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Diameter
Palm-branch curved, no f/l	11	17.46mm
Palm-branch curved, o/s	1	13mm
Palm-branch curved, ΔHMO, ΔHM, ΔHO or HM	38	17.84mm

Table 2.20b Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Tigranes II coppers

Palm-branch curved, f/l H, M	2	17mm
Palm-branch straight, no f/l	9	16.94mmg
Palm-branch straight, f/l ΔHMO, ΔHM, or ΔHO	6	16.5mm
Palm-branch straight, f/l HK, H	2	18.00mm
Total	69	

Table 2.21, Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orient. of Tigranes II cop.

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
Palm-branch curved, no f/l	9	4/12h, 5/1h
Palm-branch curved, o/s	1	1/12h
Palm-branch curved, ΔHMO, ΔHM, ΔHO or HM	23	1/10h, 2/11h, 16/12, 3/1h, 1/2h
Palm-branch curved, f/l H, M	2	1/12, 1/2h
Palm-branch straight, no f/l	9	8/12h, 1/1h
Palm-branch straight, f/l ΔHMO, ΔHM, or ΔHO	2	2/12h
Palm-branch straight, f/l HK, H	2	2/12h
Total	48	

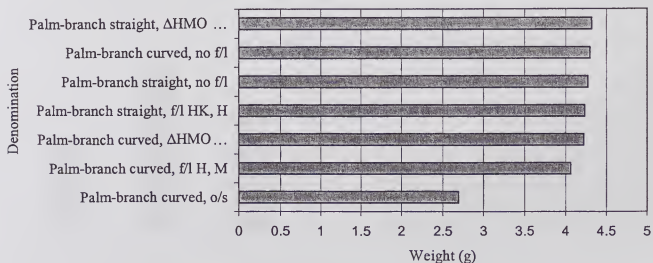


Chart 2.63, Average weights of Tigranes II copper coins (grams)

METROLOGY OF COPPER COINAGE OF THE ARTAXIADS OF ARMENIA

Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.)

(Section 8)

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Tripod with Curved Legs

No f/l

2 Chalci

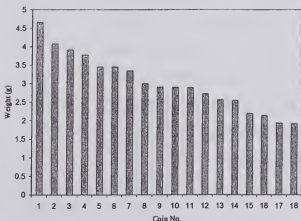
1	122	4.66g-16ø	Foss101
2	122	4.08g-15ø	Foss102
3	122	3.92g	CNG27-23

Avg. = 12.66+3 = 4.22g weight

Avg. = 31+2 = 15.50mm diameter

1 Chalcus

4	122	3.78g	CNG27-24
5	111	3.46g	CAA122PB
6	---	3.46g-16.2ø-1h	Er19031/16
7	111	3.35g	CAA122PB
8	111	3.00g	Unpub4JG
9	111	2.91g	CAA122JG
10	122	2.90g-14ø-1h	JN103MaB
11	122	2.89g-13ø	Foss101
12	122	2.73g-14ø	Foss103BM
13	111	2.57g	CAA122PB
14	111	2.55g-15ø-12h	AC&B18-51
15	122	2.20g-15.5ø-12h	JN104MaB
16	---	2.14g-14.1ø-1h	Er19648/109
17	---	1.94g-13.8ø-1h	Er19585/51
18	111	1.92g	CAA122TD



Ch. 2.64, Tripod, curved legs, no f/l

No.	CAA ACV	Metrological Data wt.-diam.-die axis	Source
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Avg. = 41.80+15 = 2.79g weight

Avg. = 115.6+8 = 14.45mm diameter

Avg. = 2/12h, 4/1h (6) die axis orientation

Tot.Avg. = 54.46+18 = 3.03g weight

Tot.Avg. = 146.6+10 = 14.66mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 2/12h, 4/1h (6) die axis orient.

f/l HMO

1 Chalcus

1	111	2.83g-15ø-12h	YNCat200
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Avg. = 2.83g weight
Avg. = 15mm diameter
Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation

f/l H

1 Chalcus

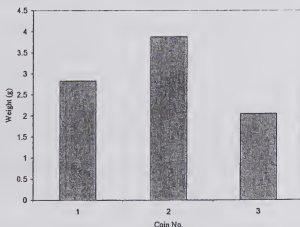
2	122	3.88g-14ø	Foss99
3	122	2.05g-13ø	Foss100

Avg. = 5.93+2 = 2.97g weight
Avg. = 27+2 = 913.50mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 8.76+3 = 2.92g weight

Tot.Avg. = 42+3 = 14.00mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 1/12h die axis orientation



Ch. 2.65, Tripod, curved legs, HMO, H

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

Tripod with Straight Legs

No f/l

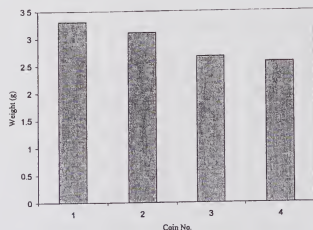
1 Chalcus

1	112	3.31g-15ø	AC&B20-15
2	112	3.11g-14ø-11h	AC&B21-10
3	112	2.67g-15ø-1h	AC&B21-9
4	---	2.57g-15.4ø-12h	Er19648/113

Tot.Avg. = 11.66+4 = 2.91g weight

Tot.Avg. = 59.4+4 = 14.85mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 1/11h, 1/12h, 1/1h (3) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.66, Tripod, straight legs, no f/l

f/l ΔHMO or HMO

2 Chalci

1	112v	5.03g-17ø-1h	TG264
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Avg. = 5.03g weight

Avg. = 17mm diameter

Avg. = 1/1h die axis orientation

1 Chalcus

2	112v	3.35g-16ø-1h	TG260
3	112v	3.33g-17ø-1h	TG259
4	112	3.22g-14ø-12h	YNCat203
5	112	3.12g	SomeUnpub5PB
6	112	3.03g-17ø-12h	YNCat204
7	107	2.99g	MD41Aufhäuser
8	112	2.95g-17ø-12h	YNCat205
9	112v	2.89g-16ø-1h	TG261

No.	CAA	Metrological Data	Source
	ACV	wt.-diam.-die axis	

10	112	2.82g-16ø-12h	YNCat201
11	112v	2.82g-17ø-12h	TG266
12	112	2.64g-13ø	MA31
13	112	2.63g-14ø	CNG36-598
14	112	2.63g-13ø-12h	YNCat202
15	107	2.59g	MD41BN
16	112	2.57g	LindIII969
17	---	2.56g-17.4ø-12h	Er19992/70
18	112	2.53g-13ø	AC&B18-31
19	112v	2.52g-16ø-12h	TG265
20	112v	2.46g-15ø-12h	TG262
21	112	2.38g-11ø	ADTII-TIV14
22	112	2.33g-13ø	AC&B19-35
23	112	2.32g-13ø	ADTII-TIV15
24	112	2.21g	CS4-664
25	112v	2.15g-16ø-1h	TG267
26	112v	2.12g-12.5ø-12h	HM
27	112v	2.07g-15ø-12h	TG263

Avg. = 69.23+26 = 2.66g weight

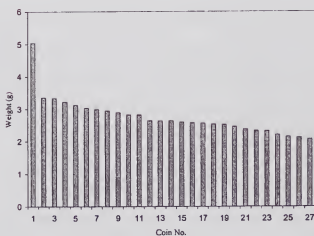
Avg. = 296.9+20 = 14.85mm diameter

Avg. = 10/12h, 4/1h (14) die axis orient.

Tot.Avg. = 74.26+27 = 2.75g weight

Tot.Avg. = 328.9+22 = 14.95mm diameter

Tot.Avg. = 10/12h, 5/1h (15) die axis orientation



Ch. 2.67, Tripod, straight legs, f/l ΔHMO or HMO

Table 2.22, *Number of coins used to calculate the average weights of Tigranes II coppers*

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Weight
Tripod, curved legs, no f/l	18	3.03g
Tripod, curved legs, HMO, H	3	2.92g
Tripod, straight legs, no f/l	4	2.91g
Tripod, straight legs, f/l ΔHMO or HMO	27	2.75g
Total	52	

Table 2.23 *Number of coins used to calculate the average diameters of Tigranes II coppers*

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Coin Diameter
Tripod, curved legs, no f/l	10	14.66mm
Tripod, curved legs, HMO, H	3	14.00mm
Tripod, straight legs, no f/l	4	14.85mm
Tripod, straight legs, f/l ΔHMO or HMO	22	14.95mm
Total	39	

Table 2.24, *Number of coins used to calculate the average die axis orient. of Tigranes II cop.*

Coin Rev. Design	Number of coins	Æ Die Axis Orientation
Tripod, curved legs, no f/l	6	2/12h, 4/1h
Tripod, curved legs, HMO, H	1	1/12h
Tripod, straight legs, no f/l	3	1/11h, 1/12h, 1/1h
Tripod, straight legs, f/l ΔHMO or HMO	15	10/12h, 5/1h
Total	25	

(cont. on p. 96)

RUSSIAN MEDALS DEDICATED TO THE CONQUEST OF EASTERN ARMENIA

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

(Plates 1-3)

Historical Background

The fall of Manzikert (1071) to the Turkic people opened Transcaucasia and Asia Minor to all the tribes who were continuously pouring in from the Central Asia and occupying the lands of the Armenians.¹ Then came the Mongols, Jenghis Khan (1206), and later Leng Timur (1387), all of whom spread nothing but death and devastation into Armenia.²

In 1453, Constantinople fell into the hands of the Ottoman Turks under the leadership of Sultan Fatih Muhammed II.³ The entirety of Asia Minor fell in their hands. The struggle between the Persian and Ottoman Turks started on Armenian lands.

Shah Abbas I (1585-1628) attempted to avenge the Persian defeat, invaded Azerbaijan, the Ararat province, and pushed his conquest into the Armenian territory. Ottoman Sultan Ahmed I (1603-1617) sent General Sinan Pasha against Abbas who did not feel that he was a match against General Sinan and started pulling out of Armenia.⁴

In their retreat, the Persians left nothing but destruction and wilderness behind. They forced the industrious Armenians to migrate and settle in their country. Villages, towns, schools, churches, monasteries, all were burned and reduced to ruins. The whole Armenian population was forcibly deported and settled in Persia. The deportation was carried on with extreme cruelty. Endless caravans were forced to move in the direction of Araxes River. Thousands who could not swim drowned. The late comers walked on the corpses of drowned Armenians and crossed the river. The Armenians were settled in a new suburb of Isfahan (1605) which was named New Julfa.⁵ This settlement is still inhabited by the Armenians who have their printing presses, newspapers, social halls, schools, and churches. Shah Abbas treated the Armenians very kindly and he proclaimed freedom of religion throughout his domain.

By 1620, the Turks had relinquished all of eastern Armenia, including Etchmiadzin, to the Persians.⁶ Shah Abbas I became a far sighted ruler and he gave certain privileges to Armenian nobles who had considerable independence and served the shah faithfully.

¹ The history of Armenia, spanning nine centuries (1071-1829), is discussed by many historians in Armenian and other languages. Jacques de Morgan, *The History of the Armenian People* (English translation, Boston, 1965); Vahan M. Kurkjian, *A History of Armenia* (New York, 1964); *History of the Armenian People*, Vols. III (Erevan, 1976), IV (Erevan 1972), and V (Erevan, 1974), (in Armenian); *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia*, Vols. 1-13 (Erevan, 1974-1987), (in Armenian); George A. Bournoutian, *A History of the Armenian People*, Vol. II (Costa Mesa, California, 1994). Historical background offered in this study relies upon the above noted sources not heeded and in some cases the information is extracted freely.

² de Morgan, pp. 278-280; Kurkjian, pp. 279-280; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. III, pp. 440-492 and Vol. IV, pp. 15-55.

³ Kurkjian, p. 281; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1979), Vol. 5, pp. 616-619.

⁴ de Morgan, pp. 281-282; Kurkjian, pp. 282-283; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, pp. 95-102.

⁵ de Morgan, p. 282; Kurkjian, p. 283; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, p. 100.

However, the successors of Shah Abbas I did not follow his policy of kindness toward the Armenian population. They were mostly fanatic Muslim clergy and to make matters worse, they emulated the Turks in their cruelty toward the Christians and Armenians. Oppression, violence, and cruelty toward the Armenians became a way of life. The Armenians seriously considered the possibility of getting rid of this Muslim tyranny.

A young man with the name of Israel Ori,⁷ tried many European courts (1699). He promised them the crown of Armenia and fought for the cause of Armenia. He finally realized that his mission had no chance of success. In Astrakhan he died at an early age (1711).

Peter the Great dispatched (1722) an expedition against Persia and seized Derbend. But the Tsar called back his army, signed a treaty of peace with Persia, ceded Georgia and Qara Bagh to Turkey the following year, and advised the Armenians to emigrate to the territory of the Russian Empire.⁸

The Armenians in Qara Bagh resorted to force. The whole Qara Bagh district rose up under the command of David Beg. The Turks moved against Qara Bagh. David Beg came to terms and acknowledged his loyalty to Persian Shah Tahmasp who made him governor (1722-1732). At this time Qara Bagh was under the rule of Persia.⁹

David Beg died and the Turks took the opportunity to reconquer Qara Bagh. Mekhitar, the lieutenant of David Beg was assassinated by his rivals (1730), and the attempt of regaining independence for Armenia came to an end.

During another Turko-Persian war (1743), Armenia again became battlefield and suffered greatly. This time, Armenian hopes were on Russia where Catherine II was empress. War broke out between Russia and Persia (1768).¹⁰ Within a few weeks the Russians drove the Persians beyond the Araxes River (1797). In 1813, by the "Treaty of Gulistan" between Russia and Persia, all Transcaucasia was annexed to the Russian Empire. The Armenian lands which were annexed to the Russian Empire included Ganja, Qara Bagh, Lori, Pambak, Zangezur. But Erevan and Etchmiadzin remained under Persian domination.¹¹

Abbas Mirza, the son of Persian Shah Fath Ali, secretly arranged for an uprising of all the Muslims of Transcaucasia. On 16 July 1826, when he thought the time was right, he invaded Qara Bagh with a 60,000-man large army and attacked Ganja with a 12,000-man army and then more troops yet to other provinces that had been surrendered in the "Treaty of Gulistan."¹² The Persians surrounded Shushi, the capital of Qara Bagh. The Persians were successful at the beginning. The Russo-Persian war (1826-1828) was in full swing.

⁶ de Morgan, p. 282; Kurkjian, p. 283; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, p. 105.

⁷ de Morgan, p. 282-283; Kurkjian, p. 284; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, pp. 138-145; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1978), Vol. 4, pp. 417-418. In Europe, by transposing the first two letters of his last name "Ori," they wrote, "Il sera roi" (He will be king).

⁸ de Morgan, p. 283; Kurkjian, p. 285; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, pp. 145-149.

⁹ de Morgan, p. 283; Kurkjian, p. 285; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, pp. 172-175.

¹⁰ de Morgan, p. 285; Kurkjian, p. 286; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, pp. 215-218.

¹¹ de Morgan, p. 286; Kurkjian, pp. 285-286; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, p. 131-135; Bournoutian, Vol. II, pp. 66-69.

¹² de Morgan, pp. 286-287; Kurkjian, pp. 286-287; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 134-135; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1977), Vol. 3, p. 114, (Erevan 1984), Vol. 10, pp. 101-103.

Since the surprise element was on the side of the Persians, on July 25th, the army that attacked Elizavetpol (Gandzak in Armenian) was successful and occupied it.¹³

The Armenians volunteered and fought alongside the Russians. For six weeks they fought heroically against the enemy until the Russians went on counteroffensive and dispatched forces from the Caucasus. The Caucasian corps was under the command of General Ermolov and his assistant Lieutenant General Matadoff, an Armenian of Qara Bagh.¹⁴ On September 3rd, near the Shamkor River, Madatov destroyed the Persian army. The Persian ruler, Abbas Mirza went on counteroffensive and sent an army of 25,000 men to reoccupy Elizavetpol. The Caucasian army corps, under the command of General Paskevich, on September 13, destroyed the army of Abbas Mirza.¹⁵ After the battles of Shamkor River and Elizavetpol, the Persians lost their will to fight.

On 13 May 1827, the Russians under the command of General Paskevich moved against Erevan. On September 23rd the Russians surrounded the fortress of Erevan. On late September 30th, the Russian infantry started charging into the fortress. For Armenians it was a war of liberation from a tyrannical Muslim government. On 1 October 1827, the Russian forces occupied the fortress of Erevan.¹⁶ The Persian army was defeated and Tabriz, the capital of Azerbaijan, surrendered unconditionally. Russia and Persia signed the "Treaty of Turkmenchai" on 10 February 1828. The Araxes River became the border demarcation and Russia received the Erevan and Nakhichevan provinces.¹⁷ There was some question of forming an autonomous "Russian Armenian Province" but the Viceroy of the Caucasus, Paskevich abandoned this plan.

As the Ottoman Turks occupied western and southern Armenia in Asia Minor, the Armenians were heavily oppressed and suffered outrageous persecution. Their lives and property were under constant threat of Kurdish tribesman who were encouraged by the Ottoman government.¹⁸

The war with Persia was hardly over when Russia was forced to start another war with Turkey. The war mostly took place in northern and northwest Armenia. The Russian commanders skillfully rallied the Armenians against their enemies. With the wholehearted support of the Christians and Armenians, the Russians occupied almost all of Armenia.¹⁹ On 20 June 1828, the Russian Caucasian corps cut the Turkish border guards and surrounded the fortress of Kars. On 23 June 1828, The Turkish corps under the command of Mahmed Emin surrendered. On 23 July 1828, the Russian army attacked Akhalkalak and immediately occupied the city. On 10 August 1828, the Russian Caucasian corps charged the fortress of Akhaltsikh and surrounded it. On 15 August 1828, after a bitter and bloody battle, the Russian army occupied the fortress of Akhaltsikh.²⁰ At the same time the Russian forces occupied the cities of Anapan, Sukhum, and Poti on the shores of the Black Sea. The Turkish

¹³ *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, p. 138.

¹⁴ de Morgan, p. 287; Kurkjian, pp. 286-287; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 137-143; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan 1974), Vol. 10, p. 102.

¹⁵ *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, p. 142.

¹⁶ de Morgan, p. 287; Kurkjian, pp. 286-287; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, p. 143-160; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan, 1983), Vol. 9, p. 138, Vol. 10, p. 102. It is interesting to note that the fortress of Erevan was built by Persian Shah Abbas I in 1607 (*History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, p. 105).

¹⁷ de Morgan, p. 287; Kurkjian, p. 287; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. IV, p. 170; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan 1978), Vol. 4, p. 269; Bournoutian, Vol. II, p. 69.

¹⁸ de Morgan, p. 287; Kurkjian, p. 287.

¹⁹ de Morgan, p. 287; Kurkjian, p. 287; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 180-181; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia* (Erevan 1974), Vol. 10, pp. 94-96.

army went on counteroffensive and on 17 February 1829, attacked and surrounded Akhalkalak. After twelve days, help arrived from Tiflis and on 4 March 1829, the defeated enemy withdrew. The Russian Caucasian army corps starts attacking Turkey with the intention of occupying the remainder of western Armenia. Two corps of the Turkish army were destroyed completely. On 27 June 1829, without any opposition, the Russian Army occupied Erzerum.²¹

In Europe the Russian armies were victorious and were threatening Constantinople.²² But the Western European powers opposed a complete subordination of the Ottoman Empire to Russia (with the thought of keeping the Russian Empire from the Mediterranean Sea). By the "Treaty of Adrianople" (1829),²³ Russia was allowed to keep a very small portion of Armenia and restore to Turkey the greater part of her Armenian conquests.²⁴

Of course the Armenians were disappointed since they were thrown back into the servitude of masters who would not forgive their devotion to the Russians. There was an exodus of nearly 100,000 Armenians emigrating to Alexandropol, Akhalkalak, Akhaltsikh.²⁵ More than half of them died from fatigue, exhaustion, and hunger.²⁶ The Russian government did not manifest much charity for these poor people.²⁷

HISTORY OF MEDALS

1. Erevan Occupation Medal

The present study has been prepared from digital images that the author has received via the Internet except for a single example preserved in his collection.

According to the information²⁸ preserved, after the Russian army had occupied Tabriz (after 14 October 1827), General Ivan Feodorovich Paskevich, commander of the Caucasian

²⁰ *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 180-182.

²¹ *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 186.

²² de Morgan, p. 287; Kurkjian, p. 287; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 183-186; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia*, Vol. 10, pp. 96.

²³ de Morgan, p. 287; Kurkjian, p. 287; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 183; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia*, Vol. 10, pp. 96; Bournoutian, Vol. II, pp. 69-70.

²⁴ de Morgan, p. 287; Kurkjian, p. 287; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, p. 190; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia*, Vol. 10, p. 96.

²⁵ de Morgan, p. 288; Kurkjian, pp. 287-289; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 190-192; *Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia*, Vol. 10, pp. 137-143.

²⁶ de Morgan, p. 288; Kurkjian, pp. 287-288; *History of the Armenian People*, Vol. V, pp. 191-192.

²⁷ de Morgan, p. 288; Kurkjian, pp. 287-288.

²⁸ Much of the information on the history of medals has been extracted from the following works of Henry V. Sarkissian. "Eastern Armenia on Russian Medallion Art Monuments," *Patmut'yan harts'er* (Erevan, 1978), pp. 235-243 (in Armenian), *Armenian Numismatic Bibliography and Literature* [ANBL] 1228; "The Armenian Theme in Russian Medallion Art," *Ashkhatut'yunner Hayastani Patmut'yan Petakan Tangarani*, Vol. VI (1975), pp. 114-142 (in Russian), ANBL 1232; "Two Letters Related to the 1827 Erevan Occupation Medal," *Banber Hayastani Arkhiuineri*, Vol. XV (1974), No. 3 (38), pp. 75-82 (in Armenian), ANBL 1243, the original Russian language letters are published in *Труды Московского нумизматического общества* (Moscow, 1898), Vol. 1, pp. 194-196; "Erevanian medalner," *Gitut'yun ev Tekhnika*, Vol. VI (1968), No. 10 (62), pp. 15-22 (in Armenian), ANBL 1242; "Armenian-Russian Links—In Medals," *Armenia Today*, Vol. XI (1976), No. 2 (34), pp. 22-23, ANBL 1230. Sarkissian has referenced, among others, two major catalogues in his works, *Собрание русских медалей* [Collection of Russian Medals] (St. Petersburg, 1843), (in Russian); and B. Смирнов, *Описание русских медалей* [Description of Russian Medals] (St. Petersburg, 1908), (in Russian). Information from these sources is extracted freely. To all of these we can add a

army corps, visited Tabriz. General Paskevich,²⁹ in his letter dated 15 December 1828 from Tiflis, addressed to Egor Frantsovich Kankrin, minister of finance, writes that two Persian photographers approached him and proposed to prepare a medal in memory of the occupation of Erevan. The commander accepts the proposal, writes that he wished to try their artistic ability, advised them to strike a few medals from the immediately prepared pictures, marking the occupation of Erevan by our armed forces and their staying in the capital of Azerbaijan.

The photographers immediately started working and minted experimental examples with their primitive equipment. The photographers stayed with Paskevich and relocated with him, all the time continuing their work, moving first to Erevan and then to Tiflis.

During the days when the commander Paskevich was in Tiflis, he sends 16 examples of medals to Kankrin to present the medal to the emperor and request his permission to continue striking the medals in large quantity. Based on the Kankrin's reply, letter dated 19 February 1829 from St. Petersburg, it is evident that the emperor did not like the medals and orders that the struck examples are sufficient and that the dies be kept safely.

In the same letter, Kankrin reveals that in the mint of St. Petersburg, a medal has been struck during 1828 on the occasion of the victory of Russo-Persian war. And with letter dated 24 November 1828, he sends a copy of this medal to Paskevich. This medal has the pictures of Mt. Ararat on both sides, a panoramic view of Erevan, and Noah's Arc on the mountain (No. 2, described below).

Henry Sarkissian explains that the so called "Persian photographers" were Armenians since in Erevan and Tabriz the mint workers were Armenians and they passed trade secrets from generation to generation.³⁰ It stands to reason to note that they were Armenians since a defeated Persian would not consider striking a medal to honor the victory of the enemy.

Even though the medal did not receive imperial permission to be minted, nearly two hundred examples have been struck in gold, silver, and copper in the mints of Tabriz, Erevan, and Tiflis. Gold and silver examples are preserved in museums, and numerous copper examples are in both museums and private collections.

2. Erevan Occupation Medal, Mt. Ararat Design

In the letter that Kankrin addressed to Paskevich, he explains that a medal was struck in the mint of St. Petersburg to commemorate the occupation of Erevan as noted above. He sends a copy of it to General Paskevich.³¹ The medal was engraved by medalist V. Alexeev, and issued in November 1828 on the occasion of the Russian victory during the Russo-Persian war. According to Diakov, initials B.A. in Russian (V. Alexeev) are engraved below in right field on the silver example he illustrated, but this is very difficult if not impossible to

modern multivolume reference work, M. E. Diakov, *Medals of the Russian Empire* (Moscow, 2006), Parts One to Seven, bilingual in English and Russian.

²⁹ General Paskevich, in 1828, was granted the title of "Count Erivanskiy" (Count of Erevan), for realizing the occupation of Erevan which the Russians had dreamed for the past few decades. His letter, printed in Russian, addressed to E. F. Kankrin is signed "Граф Иван Паскевич – Эриванский (Count Ivan Paskevich – Erivanskiy).

³⁰ Sarkissian, "Two Letters Related to the 1827 Erevan Occupation Medal," *Banber Hayastani Arkhivneri*, Vol. XV (1974), No. 3 (38), pp. 81-82. In this article Sarkissian has reprinted the letters of Paskevich and Kankrin in Russian in total (originally published for the first time in *Staraiia Moneta*, (1912), No. 5, pp. 70-71) and also given their translations in Armenian.

³¹ Sarkissian, "Two Letters Related to the 1827 Erevan Occupation Medal," pp. 81-82.

notice on copper examples. Diakov³² reports that this medal was struck in gold, silver, and bronze, diameter 65mm.

This is the only medal in the Russo-Persian and Russo-Turkish war medallic series where Ararat Mountain and a scene from the city of Erevan have been depicted. It should be mentioned that neither one of them is done with extreme accuracy. All that can be said is that the pictures of Mt. Ararat on both sides and Erevan's scenery are symbolic representation. Furthermore, this was the first time that the Ararat Mountain and the city of Erevan were represented on a medal. For a pictorial scene of Erevan, at the end of this study, see "Figure 1. Panoramic view of Erevan in 1796."

3-9. Russo-Persian and Russo-Turkish War Medals

During the 30s of the nineteenth century, a series of twelve medals were struck dedicated to the Russo-Persian (1826-1828) and Russo-Turkish (1828-1829) war victories. Medallist Count Feodor Petrovich Tolstoy (1783-1873) was chosen to design all of the medals in this series. The medals were engraved by A. P. Lyalin and R. A. Klepikov, die-cutters from the mint of St. Petersburg. The medals additionally bear the dates of the striking 1837 or 1839. Tolstoy represented the historic events of the war on the medals. Six of the medals relate to Armenia: Erevan (No. 3), Elizavetpol (No. 4), Kars (No. 5), Akhaltsikh (No. 6), the destruction of the Turkish army (No. 7), and Erzerum (No. 8).

On the obverse of these medals is the coat of arms of the Russian Empire, where a double-headed eagle is depicted, executed by Klepikov. On all the reverses of medals is a tall Russian soldier personifying Russia; they had one primary aim, to immortalize the victories of the Russian Army with medallic art. It should be emphasized that these medals do not reflect any Armenian theme or cultural values. They are only engraved with the names of Armenian cities. Two dates are engraved on the medal reverses. The last one with large letters is the year when the war ended. The first date in small engraving is the year when the medal was cut.

During the 30s of the nineteenth century, another series of medals, by the order of the Russian government, were struck in Germany dedicated to the Russo-Turkish (1828-1829) war victories. Medalist G. Loos was the director of these medals. One of these medals immortalizes the occupation of Erzerum (No. 9).³³ Note that the inscription on this medal is not in Russian, but in Latin.

In this study, the medals have been catalogued in chronological and historical order, based on what is chronicled in the *History of the Armenian People* (Erevan, 1972), Vol. V. However, the Erevan medals have been grouped together and do not follow the exact chronological sequence.

10-11. Award Medals of Russo-Persian and Russo-Turkish Wars

In addition to all of the medals discussed above, there are medals which are primarily used to award those who fought in the Russo-Persian (1826-1828) and Russo-Turkish wars.³⁴

The award medal for the Persian war was designed on 15 March 1828. It was struck in silver to award the officers, and in bronze to award the enlisted grade soldiers and all those who brought their participation to the war. Mr. Richard Doty, the curator of the National

³² Diakov, p. 48, No. 476.1.

³³ Sarkissian, "Eastern Armenia on Russian Medallic Art Monuments," *Patmut'yan harts'er*, p. 236.

³⁴ Sarkissian, "Two Letters Related to the 1827 Erevan Occupation Medal," p. 79.

Numismatic Collection, Smithsonian Institution, writes in his e-mail, "We have both, a silver with ribbon, and a copper 'round' – looks like a coin and never had a suspension loop. Die axis on both of pieces is 12h. Diameter 26mm on both medals, 81 mm on medal with ribbon attached. ..." ³⁵ Diakov ³⁶ describes two different varieties, silver and bronze, with and without a suspension loop.

Similarly, there is an award medal for the Turkish war, in silver and bronze, with a suspension loop at the top. It was designed on 1 October 1829. According to Diakov ³⁷ both versions have the same diameter.

These medals have no direct relationship with Armenia; however, here they are catalogued as an epilogue to the presented historic medallic series. ³⁸

CATALOGUE OF MEDALS

1. Erevan Occupation Medal ³⁹

- Obv.: Russian double-headed eagle, wings spread, is attacking the Persian lion, who has turned its head to the right. Eagle's claws are plunged into the lion's back. Below the lion's feet, is the fallen Persian yataghan (saber with curved blade). To the right are the rays of rising sun on the horizon. Next to the necks of the eagle, is the letter "Ж" above the letter "I", standing for Nicholas I, the tsar of the Russian Empire. Above in the field, the royal crown of the Russian Empire.
Legend below in exergue, ЕРИВАНЪ ВЗЯТА 1-ГО ОКТЯБРЯ 1827 (Erevan occupied on the 1st of October 1827).
- Rev.: Legend in eight horizontal lines, ВЪ ЦАРСТВОВАНИЕ / ИМПЕРАТОРА / НИКОЛАЯ 1-ГО / ЧЕКАНЕНО ВЪ ТАВРИЗЕ / ВО ВРЕМЯ ПРЕБЫВАНИЯ / РОССИЙСКИХЪ ВОЙСКЪ / 6-ГО ДЕКАБРЯ / 1827 (Minted during the reign of Emperor Nicholas I, in Tabriz, when the Russian troops were there, on the 6th of December 1827).
- Data: AE, 41.17 grams, 45.5 mm, 12h History Museum of Armenia, Inv. M7
1a. AV, 82.17 grams, 44 mm Hermitage Museum, Inv. A3-372
1b. AR, 45 mm Hermitage Museum Inv. 2712 and 2714
1c. AR, 48 mm History Museum of the City of Erevan, Inv. 1273
1d. AE, 46.98 grams, 45 mm, 12h Barsoumian coll.
1e. AE, 36.53 grams, 44 mm, 12h Barsoumian coll.

³⁵ Private communication, dated 2 March 2010.

³⁶ Diakov, p. 46, Nos. 472.1 and 472.2.

³⁷ Diakov, p. 46, No. 473.

³⁸ I would like to extend my thanks to Mr. Ruben Vardanyan, the manager and curator of the Numismatics Section of the History Museum of Armenia, Mr. Richard Doty, the curator of the National Numismatic Collection, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., and Mr. Vatsche Barsoumian, for sending me the photographs of Russian Medals Dedicated to the Conquest of Eastern Armenia, their metrological data, and answering all of my questions very patiently. Also, I express my gratitude to my friend Wartan Gewenian for his proofreading of the Russian legends inscribed on the medals and his valuable assistance in the Russian language. I would like to thank Mr. Dmitry Markov for providing the scenic view of Erevan in 1796, from his personal collection of postcards, Ms. Elizabeth Hahn, Librarian of the American Numismatic Society for sending me numismatic literature, and also to Ms. RyAnne Scott, Library Manager of the American Numismatic Association for sending me numismatic literature.

³⁹ Sarkissian, "The Armenian Theme..." p. 119; *Collection of Russian Medals*, p. 80, pl. LXIII, No. 352; Smirnov, p. 69, No. 156/434; Diakov, p. 41, No. 467.1.

1f. AR, AE, 52 mm

Diakov, p. 467.1⁴⁰

1g. AR, AE, 47 mm

Diakov, p. 467.2⁴¹

2. Erevan Occupation Medal, Mt. Ararat Design⁴²

Obv.: Above, 2242, the year from the beginning of creation. Dominating the center of the medal is the twin-peaked Ararat Mountain, observed from the east and surrounded with a sea of water. At the top of the higher peak is Noah's Arc during the time of the deluge. To the left of the medal is the rising sun on the horizon.

Rev.: Above, 18 † 28 (cross with rays), the year when the medal was struck, shortly after the occupation of Erevan by Russian soldiers. Dominating the center of the medal is the twin-peaked Ararat Mountain; on the top of the mountain is the Russian flag. Below the Ararat mountain, is the panoramic view of the city of Erevan viewed from the other side of the mountain.

Data: AE, 124.12 grams, 64 mm, rim 4 to 5 mm thick, 12h

Nercessian coll., Inv. 5941

1a. AV, AR, AE, 65 mm

Diakov,⁴³ 476.1

3. Erevan Fortress Captured⁴⁴

Obv.: A double-headed eagle is in the center of the Russian imperial coat of arms; there is a crown on each head of the eagle. The eagle holds globus cruciger in his left talon, and scepter in his right. In the center square panel is St. George, as a horseman, spearing the dragon beneath him, surrounded with Andrew's chain. Above in the field is the Russian imperial crown. Below the eagle's tail, is the name of the engraver in small letters, P. A. КЛЕПИКОВЪ 1837 (R. A. Klepikov 1837). All in high relief and within laurel wreath.

Rev.: In the center is a Russian soldier, wearing helmet and armor, standing victorious and facing. He holds shield with his left hand, and Russian flag with his right. The flag is masted on a high flag pole waiving to his right. On the flag is the double headed eagle. To the right and left of his legs are the ruins of the fortress and fallen enemy soldiers, flags, shield displaying the Persian coat of arms, helmet, and war trophies. Legend circular, ВЗЯТИЕ КРЕПОСТИ ЕРИВАНИ (Occupation of Erevan fortress).

Below in exergue engraved in small letters, СЪ МОДЕЛИ ГРАФА ФЕОДОРА ТОЛСТАГО / РЕЗАЛЪ А. ЛЯЛИНЪ 1839 / 1829 (Model drawn by Count Feodor Tolstoy / engraver A. Lyalin 1839 / 1829).

Data: AE, 123.5 grams, 65 mm, 12h

Barsoumian coll.

4. Battle of Elizavetpol (Gandzak)⁴⁵

Obv.: Double-headed eagle, as in 3.

Rev.: Above is a Russian soldier, charging on the enemy. He holds with his right hand a sword above his head in horizontal position, and with his left hand, a shield which displays a double-headed eagle. Below is a fallen enemy soldier and his horse. The

⁴⁰ Diakov, p. 41, No. 467.1.

⁴¹ Diakov, p. 41, No. 467.2.

⁴² Sarkissian, "The Armenian Theme...", p. 119; *Collection of Russian Medals*, p. 80, pl. LXIII, No. 353; Smirnov, p. 228, No. 445.

⁴³ Diakov, p. 48, No. 476.1

⁴⁴ Sarkissian, "The Armenian Theme...", p. 124, No. 1; Smirnov, p. 71, No. 156/439; Diakov, Part 8 (2008), No. 1788.

⁴⁵ Smirnov, p. 68, No. 156/433; Diakov, No. 1782.

enemy holds a shield with his left hand, and with his right a yataghan. The enemy shield displays Persian coat of arm.

Legend circular, СРАЖЕНИЕ ПОДЪ ЕЛИЗАВЕТПОЛЕМЪ (The battle near Elizavetpol).

Below in exergue engraved in small letters, СЪ МОДЕЛИ ГРАФА ФЕОДОРА ТОЛСТАГО / РЕЗАЛЬ А. ЛЯЛИНЪ 1839 / 1826 (Model drawn by Count Feodor Tolstoy / engraver A. Lyalin 1839 / 1826).

Data: AE, 123.3 grams, 65 mm, 12h

Barsoumian coll.

5. Kars Captured⁴⁶

Obv.: Double-headed eagle, as in 3.

Rev.: In the center is a Russian soldier, wearing helmet, standing on the walls of the Kars fortress. His chest armor displays the double-headed eagle. He holds sword with his right hand, and Russian flag with his left. To his left and behind him are the bodies of two fallen Turkish soldiers, a fallen helmet, and shield which displays crescent and star. To the right and left are enemy flags and war trophies.

Legend circular, ВЗЯТИЕ КАРСА (Occupation of Kars).

Below in exergue engraved in small letters, СЪ МОДЕЛИ ГРАФА ФЕОДОРА ТОЛСТАГО / РЕЗАЛЬ А. КЛЕПИКОВЪ 1839 / 1828 (Model drawn by Count Feodor Tolstoy / engraver A. Klepikov 1839 / 1828).

Data: AE, 130.2 grams, 65 mm, 12h

History Museum of Armenia, Inv. M11

6. Battle of Akhaltsikh⁴⁷

Obv.: Double-headed eagle, as in 3.

Rev.: In the center is a Russian soldier, helmet on his head, charging against the fortress of Akhaltsikh. He holds a sword with his right hand, and a shield with left. Turkish flag and soldiers are on the wall, holding spear and shield. To the left, enemy troops running away with their flag. Under the feet of the Russian warrior is the body of fallen enemy, his helmet, flag, spear, shield which displays crescent and star, and other war trophies.

Legend circular, СРАЖЕНИЕ ПОДЪ АХАЛЦИХОМЪ И ШТУРМЪ СЕЙ КРѢПОСТИ (The battle near Akhaltsikh and the storming of that fortress).

Below in exergue engraved in small letters, СЪ МОДЕЛИ ГРАФА ФЕОДОРА ТОЛСТАГО / РЕЗАЛЬ А. КЛЕПИКОВЪ 1839 / 1828 (Model drawn by Count Feodor Tolstoy / engraver A. Klepikov 1839 / 1828).

Data: AE, 129.68 grams, 65 mm, 12h

History Museum of Armenia, Inv. M13

7. Complete Destruction of Two Corps of the Turkish Army⁴⁸

Obv.: Double-headed eagle, as in 3.

Rev.: A tall Russian soldier is standing, wearing helmet on his head and armor on his chest. He holds a raised sword horizontally above his head with his right hand, and pushes the enemy down with his left. Below, in kneeling position, are enemy soldiers, one holds Turkish flag; and the other holds shield with his left hand, and yataghan with his right. Beneath are fallen enemy soldier, flags, and other war trophies.

⁴⁶ Sarkissian, "The Armenian Theme...", p. 125, No. 5; Smirnov, 69, No. 156/435; Diakov, No. 1784.

⁴⁷ Sarkissian, "The Armenian Theme...", p. 124, No. 2; Smirnov, pp. 69-70, No. 156/436; Diakov, No. 1785.

⁴⁸ Sarkissian, "The Armenian Theme...", pp. 124-125, No. 3; Smirnov, p. 71, No. 156/440; Diakov, No. 1789.

Legend circular, СОВЕРШЕННОЕ РАЗБИТИЕ ДВУХЪ КОРПУСОВ ТУРЕЦКОЙ АРМИИ (Complete destruction of two corps of the Turkish army).

Below in exergue engraved in small letters, СЪ МОДЕЛИ ГРАФА ФЕОДОРА ТОЛСТАГО / РЕЗАЛЬ А. ЛЯЛИНЪ 1839 / 1829 (Model drawn by Count Feodor Tolstoy / engraver A. Lyalin 1839 / 1829).

Data: AE, 121.71 grams, 65 mm, 12h

History Museum of Armenia, Inv. M15

8. Erzerum Occupation Medal⁴⁹

Obv.: Double-headed eagle, as in 3.

Rev.: A tall Russian soldier is standing and facing, wearing helmet on his head and armor on his chest. He holds with his right hand a sword pointed downward. With his left hand he holds the imperial flag which is waving to the right and letter "H" is printed on it. The flag pole rests on the top of a chest inscribed А—ЗЕРУМЪ (A—zerum) in small letters. In the background, above the chest is a double-headed eagle as if guarding the chest. A crown is above and between the two heads of the eagle, and in a square panel is St. George, spearing the dragon beneath him. Below are enemy shields, helmets, flags, and other war trophies.

Legend circular, ЗАНЯТИЕ АРЗЕРУМА (Occupation of Erzerum).

Below in exergue engraved in small letters, СЪ МОДЕЛИ ГРАФА ФЕОДОРА ТОЛСТАГО / РЕЗАЛЬ А. ЛЯЛИНЪ 1839 / 1829 (Model drawn by Count Feodor Tolstoy / engraver A. Lyalin 1839 / 1829).

Data: AE, 130.14 grams, 65 mm, 12h

History Museum of Armenia, Inv. M17

9. Erzerum Captured (Struck in Germany)⁵⁰

Obv.: Head of Tsar Nicholas I right laureate. Clockwise legend in Latin, NICOLAUS I TOTIUS RUSSIAE IMPERATOR (Nicholas I Emperor of All Russia). The name of the artist is inscribed below the tsar's neck in small letters, G. LOOS DIR.

Rev.: Six-line horizontal inscription engraved in Latin. ERZERO CAPTO / D. XXVII JUN. / HAEMO MONTE / TRANSITO / D. VIII. JUL. ST. V. / MDCCCXXXIX (Capture of Erzerum, 27th of June. Passage Across the Balkan Mountains, 8 July 1829). All within laurel wreath.

Data: AE, 37.82 grams, 39 mm, rim 4 mm thick, 12h

Barsoumian coll.

1a. AR, AE, 38 mm

Diakov,⁵¹ 484.1

10. Award Medal of Russo-Persian War⁵²

Obv.: "All-seeing eye" in triangular shape, radiant, below the dates "1826, 1827 / 1828," the years of Russo-Persian war in two lines, surrounded by two laurel branches.

Rev.: On the reverse is three-line inscription in Russian, "ЗА / ПЕРСИДСКУЮ / ВОЙНУ" (For the Persian war). All within laurel wreath.

Data: AR, 8.234 grams, 26mm, 12h, 81mm with ribbon

National Numismatic Collection,
Smithsonian Institution

Data: AE, 11.877 grams, 26mm, 12h

National Numismatic Collection,

⁴⁹ Sarkissian, "The Armenian Theme...", p. 125, No. 4; Smirnov, p. 73, No. 156/444; Diakov, No. 1793.

⁵⁰ Sarkissian, "The Armenian Theme...", p. 127; *Collection of Russian Medals*, p. 81, pl. LXIV, No. 361.

⁵¹ Diakov, p. 52, No. 484.1.

⁵² *Collection of Russian Medals*, p. 80, pl. LXIII, No. 354; Smirnov, p. 228, No. 446; Diakov, p. 46, Nos. 472.1 and 472.2.

- 1a. AR, AE 25 mm Diakov,⁵³ 472.1
1b. AR, 21 mm, with suspension loop Diakov,⁵⁴ 472.2

11. Award Medal of Russo-Turkish War⁵⁵

Obv.: Russian cross, radiant, above the Turkish crescent. To the left is the date when the war started, "1828"; to the right, is the date when the war ended, "1829".

Rev.: On the reverse is three-line inscription in Russian, "ЗА / ТУРЕЦКУЮ / ВОЙНУ" (For the Turkish war). All within laurel wreath.

Data: AR, 9.27 grams, 26 mm, rim 2 mm thick, 12h, with suspension loop, Barsoumian coll.

- 1a. AE 25 mm Diakov,⁵⁶ 473.1



Fig. 1. Panoramic view of Erevan in 1796

⁵³ Diakov, p. 46, No. 472.1.

⁵⁴ Diakov, p. 41, No. 472.2.

⁵⁵ Smirnov, p. 229, No. 447; Diakov, p. 46, No. 473.1.

⁵⁶ Diakov, p. 46, No. 473.

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[Ամփոփում]

Ռուս-պարսկական (1826-1828) և ռուս-թրքական (1828-1829) պատերազմներուն յիշատակը յաւերժացնելու համար հրատարակուած են բազմաթիւ մեդալներ, որոնց ինը հատը նուիրուած են արեւելեան Հայաստանի նուաճմանը: Հոս ցուցակագրուած մեդալները առնչութիւն ունին հայկական քաղաքներ Երևանի, Ախալքալաքի, Գանձակի, Կարսի և Հրզրումի հետ:

Մեդալներու հեղինակն է Ֆէոդոր Պետրովիչ Տոլստոյը (1783-1873): Մեդալները քանդակած են Ս. Պետերբուրկի քանդակագործ վարպետներ Ա. Կլեպիկովի ու Ա. Պ. Լեալինը:

1. **Երևանի գրաւում.**— Երեսին պատկերուած է ռուսական երկգլխանի արծիւը, որը մագիլները մխրճած է առիւծի մէջքին: Առիւծին գլուխը աջ դարձած է և ոտքերուն տակ ինկած է պարսկական եսթաղանը: Աջին է բարձրացող արևի ճառագայթները: Արծուի երկու վիզերուն միջև արձանագրուած է «*И*» տառը: «*І*» տառին վրայ: Ներքևը գրուած է ռուսերէնով, «Երևանը գրաւուած է 1 Հոկտեմբեր 1827-ին»: Ետին կայ 8 սողոնոց ռուսերէն արձանագրութիւն, «Դրուագուած է Կայսր Նիկոլայ Ա-ի թագաւորութեան օրօք Թաւրիզի մէջ, ռուսական զօրքերու այդտեղ գտնուելու ժամանակ, 6 Դեկտեմբեր 1827-ին»:

2. **Երևանի գրաւում** — Արարատ լեռան պատկերաւորումով:— Այս մեդալը թողարկուած է Ս. Պետերբուրկի գրամատարանը 1828-ին, հեղինակ՝ Վ. Ալեքսէև: Երեսին 2242, տարին ստեղծագործութենէն ի վեր: Մեդալի կեդրոնին կ'իշխէ արեւելքէն դիտուած Արարատ լեռը, որու բարձր կատարին վրայ է Նոյի տապանը ջրհեղեղի ժամանակ: Ձախին է բարձրացող արևը, լեռան վարի մասը՝ ծովածաւալ ջրերի մէջ: Մետալի ետին, 18 † 28 (ճաճանչաւոր խաչ), տարին՝ երբ Երևանի գրաւումէն յետոյ մեդալը թողարկուած է, կեդրոնը՝ Արարատ լեռը, լեռան կատարին՝ ռուսական դրօշը: Լեռան ստորոտը դրուագուած է Երևանի համայնապատկերը դիտուած միւս կողմէն:

3. **Երևանի բերդի գրաւում.**— Երեսին ռուսական կայսրութեան զինանշանը, որուն վրայ քանդակուած է երկգլխանի արծիւը: Արծուի իւրաքանչիւր գլխուն վրայ կայ թագ մը, ձախ թաթով բռնած է խաչակիր գունդ մը, աջով՝ արքայական գաւազան մը: Կեդրոնը քառակուսի շրջագիծի մէջ քանդակուած է Սբ. Գեորգը որպէս ձիաւոր, որ վիշապը կը նիզակահարէ: Վերը դաշտին մէջ կը տեսնուի ռուսական թագը: Քառակուսի շրջագիծը շրջապատուած է Անդէասի շրջալով: Ասոնց բոլորը բարձրաքանդակ է և շրջապատուած՝ ծաղկեպսակով: Այս մեդալաչափ երեսին վրայ գտնուող զինանշանը քանդակուած է Ա. Կլեպիկով կողմէ 1837-ին: Մեդալի ետին:— Յաղթական ու հանդիպահայեաց ռուս զինուորը կանգնած է, գլխուն՝ սաղաւարտ: Ձախ ձեռքով բռնած է վահան մը, աջով՝ ռուսական դրօշը: Ձինուորի ոտքի աջին ու ձախին կ'երևին, բերդի պարիսպին փլատակները, ինկած թշնամի զինուորներ, դրօշակ և պատերազմական աւար: Վերի ռուսերէն խորագրութիւնն է «Երևանի բերդին գրաւումը», վարը՝ «Նախատիպը գծուած Կոմս Ֆէոդոր Թոլստոյի կողմէ, քանդակագործ՝ Ա. Լեալին

1839/1829»։ Վերջին թուականը պատերազմներու վերջանալու տարին է։ Իսկ առաջին թուականը՝ մեդալի դրուսգման տարին է։

4. Ելիսաւետպոլի (Գանձակ) պատերազմ։- Երեսին ռուսական զինանշանը 3-ի նման։ Մեդալի ետին։- Վերը ռուս զինուոր մը, ալ ձեռքով բռնած է սուր մը իր գլխուն վերեւ, չորիզոնական ձախ ձեռքով՝ վահան մը, որուն վրայ պատկերուած է երկգլխանի արծիւ մը։ Վարը ինկած է թշնամի զինուոր մը և իր ձին։ Թշնամի ձախ ձեռքով կը բռնէ վահան մը։ աջով՝ եաթաղան մը։ Վերի ռուսերէն խորագրութիւնն է «Ելիսաւետպոլի մօտակա պատերազմը», վարը՝ «Նախատիպը գծուած կոմս Ֆէոդոր Թոլսթոյի կողմէ, քանդակագործ՝ Ա. Լեալին 1839/1826»։

5. Կարսի գրաւում։- Երեսին ռուսական զինանշանը 3-ի նման։ Մեդալի ետին։- Ռուս զինուոր մը կարսի բերդի պարիսպին վրան է, գլխուն՝ սաղաւարտ։ ձախ ձեռքով բռնած է վահան մը, աջով՝ ռուսական դրօշը։ Կուրծքը ծածկուած է զրահով որուն վրայ կայ երկգլխանի արծիւը։ Իր ձախին ու ետին են թշնամի զինուորներու ինկած մարմինները, իրենց սաղաւարտները, վահանը՝ որու վրայ կը նշմարուին մահիկ ու աստղ։ Աջին ու ձախին կը տեսնուին թշնամիի դրօշակներն ու պատերազմական աւար։ Վերի ռուսերէն խորագրութիւնն է «Կարսի գրաւումը», վարը՝ «Նախատիպը գծուած կոմս Ֆէոդոր Թոլսթոյի կողմէ, քանդակագործ՝ Ա. Կլեպիկով 1839/1829»։

6. Ախալցիխի պատերազմ։- Երեսին ռուսական զինանշանը 3-ի նման։ Մեդալի ետին։- Ռուս զինուոր մը կեդրոնը կանգնած է, գլխուն՝ սաղաւարտ, ու կը գոռչէ Ախալցիխի բերդին վրայ։ Աջ ձեռքով բռնած է սուր մը, իսկ ձախով՝ վահան մը։ Թրքական դրօշ ու զինուորներ կը տեսնուին պարիսպին վրայ, որոնք կը բռնեն նիզակ ու վահան։ Ձախին՝ թշնամի զինուորներ կը փախին իրենց դրօշակով։ Ռուս ռազմիկի ոտքերուն տակ կը տեսնուին թշնամիի ինկած մարմինները, իրենց դրօշակը, նիզակը, վահանը որոնց վրայ կը տեսնուի մահիկ ու աստղ, և այլ պատերազմական աւար։ Վերի ռուսերէն խորագրութիւնն է «Պատերազմը Ախալցիխի մօտ և այդ բերդին վրայ գոռչելը», վարը՝ «Նախատիպը գծուած կոմս Ֆէոդոր Թոլսթոյի կողմէ, քանդակագործ՝ Ա. Կլեպիկով 1839/1829»։

7. Լըիւ Ջախջախում Թրքական բանակի երկու զօրաբանակներու։- Երեսին ռուսական զինանշանը 3-ի նման։ Մեդալի ետին։- Ռուս զինուոր մը կանգնած է, գլխուն՝ սաղաւարտ և կուրծքը՝ զրահով ծածկուած։ Իր աջ ձեռքով բռնած է բարձրացուած սուր մը որ իր գլխուն վերեւ է և չորիզոնական։ Ծնկադրած են երկու թշնամի զինուորներ որոնցմէ մին բռնած է դրօշակ, որուն վրայ է մահիկ ու աստղ, իսկ միւրը՝ վահան ու եաթաղան։ Վարը կ'երևին դրօշակ, և այլ պատերազմական աւար։ Վերի ռուսերէն խորագրութիւնն է «Լըիւ Ջախջախում Թրքական բանակի երկու զօրաբանակներուն», վարը՝ «Նախատիպը գծուած կոմս Ֆէոդոր Թոլսթոյի կողմէ, քանդակագործ՝ Ա. Լեալին 1839/1829»։

8. Էրզրումի գրաւում։- Երեսին ռուսական զինանշանը 3-ի նման։ Մեդալի ետին։- Ռուս զինուոր մը, որու կուրծքը զրահով ծածկուած է։ Ձախ ձեռքով բռնած է արքայական դրօշակ մը, որուն վրայ առկայ է ցարին անուան առաջին տառը, «ІѲ», և խաչ՝ դրօշակի ձողին կատարին։ Զինուորը դրօշակը կանգնեցուած է սնտուկի մը վրայ, ուր արձանագրուած է «А—ЗЕРУМЪ» (Ա—զրում)։ Իր աջ ձեռքը բռնած սուրը ուղղուած դէպի վար։ Ետին կայ երկգլխանի արծիւ մը սնտուկին վրայ, թագ մը արծուի երկու գլուխներուն վերեւ և զինանշանի վրայի քառակուսի շրջագիծին մէջ Սբ. Գէորգը, որ միշտպէս կը նիզակահարէ։ Վարը կը տեսնուի թշնամի վահաններ, սաղաւարտներ, դրօշակ և դրօշակի ձող, և այլ պատերազմական աւար։ Վերի ռուսերէն խորագրութիւնն է «Էրզրումի գրաւումը», վարը՝ «Նախատիպը գծուած կոմս Ֆէոդոր Թոլսթոյի կողմէ, քանդակագործ՝ Ա. Լեալին 1839/1829»։

9. *էրզրումի գրաւում (գրուագում՝ Գերմանիա)–* Ռուսական կառավարութեան պատուերով Գերմանիոյ մէջ թողարկուած է մեդալաւար մը նուիրուած ռուս-թրքական պատերազմին (1828-1829): Ասոնցմէ մին կը յաւերժացնէ էրզրումի գրաւումը ռուսական բանակին կողմէ: Երեսին վրայ գրուագումն է Նիկոլա Ա. կայսրին պսակադիր գլուխը, գէպի աջ. լատիներէն արձանագրութիւնն է «Նիկոլա Ա. կայսր՝ ամբողջ Ռուսաստանի»: / *էրզրումի գրաւումը* 27 Յունիսին, Պալքանեան լեռներու մէջէն անձքը 8 Յուլիս 1829-ին», չըջապատուած՝ ծաղկեպսակով: Մեդալագործի անունը՝ Գ. Լոոս, արձանագրուած է կայսրի վզին տակը:

10. *Ռուս-պարսկական պատերազմի պարգևային մեդալ–* Այս պարգևային մեդալը թողարկուած է ռուս-պարսկական պատերազմի աւարտին և ուղղակի առնչութիւն չունի Հայաստանի հետ: Արծաթեայ մեդալի վերի մասը ունի կախիկի օղակ մը: Երեսին վրայ գրուագումն է ճաճանչաւոր «Ամենատես» աչբը, որու տակ արձանագրուած են պատերազմի տարեթուերը, 1826, 1827 / 1828 երկու տողի վրայ, բոլորը չըջապատուած՝ ծաղկեպսակով: Մեդալի ետին երեք տողով արձանագրուած է ռուսերէնով, «Պարսկական պատերազմին համար»: Մեդալը կտրուած է արծաթէ, սպաներուն պարզատրեւել համար, ինչպէս նաև բրոնզէ՝ ցած աստիճանաւորներու և պատերազմի բոլոր այլ մասնակցողներուն համար:

11. *Ռուս-թրքական պատերազմի պարգևային մեդալ–* Այս պարգևային մեդալը թողարկուած է ռուս-թրքական պատերազմի աւարտին և նախորդ մեդալի նման ուղղակի առնչութիւն չունի Հայաստանի հետ: Եւ վերի պարգևային մեդալի հետ միատեղ հոս ընծայուած են որպէս մեդալաւարի վերջարան: Մեդալին վերը կայ կախիկի օղակ մը: Երեսին վրայ գրուագումն է ճաճանչաւոր ռուսական իսա՝ մը, զետեղուած՝ թրքական մահիկին վրայ, ձախին ու աջին՝ պատերազմի տարեթուերը, 1828 և 1829: Ետին, երեք տողով արձանագրուած է ռուսերէնով, «Թրքական պատերազմին համար», չըջապատուած՝ ծաղկեպսակով: Այս մեդալն ալ, նախկին պարգևային մեդալի նման կտրուած է արծաթէ ու բրոնզէ, պատերազմի աւարտին պարգևատրութեան համար:

Ե. Թ. Ներսէսեան

(Metrology, cont. from p. 82)

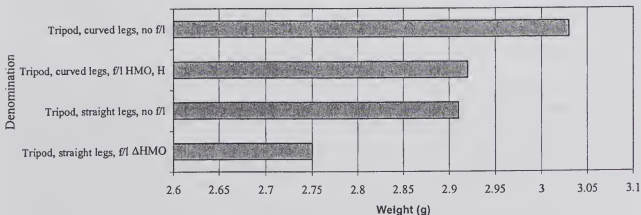
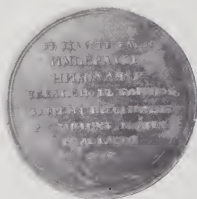


Chart 2.68 Average weights of Tigranes II copper coins (grams)



1



2



The Obv. of Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Y. T. Nercessian, Russian Medals Dedicated to the Conquest of Eastern Armenia



3 Rev.



4 Rev.



5 Rev.



6 Rev.



7 Rev.



8 Rev.

Y. T. Nercessian, Russian Medals Dedicated to the Conquest of Eastern Armenia



9



10



11

Y. T. Nercessian, Russian Medals Dedicated to the Conquest of Eastern Armenia



A



1



2X

Arsames I (c. 240- B.C.)



2



3



4



Arsames II (c. 230 B.C.)



5



6



7



Ariobarzanes (66-63 B.C.)

Frank L. Kovacs, Sophene: New Coins and Comments

SOPHENE: NEW COINS AND COMMENTS

(Plate 5)

Since the monograph on the *Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene* twenty-five years ago¹ little has been added to the corpus of Sophene's coins. The current state of the chronology is given by Martin Schottky.²

The following are new types and new examples of known types.

1. Arsames I, c. 240 BC. AE 15. 2.91g; 12:00.

Obverse: Head of a king wearing bashlyk r.

Reverse: [BAΣΙΑΕΩΣ] [AP]ΣΑΜΟΥ (sic); horse's head r. (pl. 5,1)

While this new type shares the obverse die of the larger denomination with king on horseback fighting a lion (Bed. 2; pl. 5,1), its weight, diameter, and type all suggest that it is a half unit. More will be said below about the apparently indiscriminate use of obverse dies for coins of different denominations.

2. Arsames II, c. 230 BC. AE 19. 4.14g.; 12:00. This is the same denomination and type as Bedoukian 6, but struck with the smaller obverse die of Bedoukian 7-8, which are half units. (pl. 5, 2)
3. Arsames II. AE 18. 3.71g; 11:00. A variant of Bedoukian 7, but with Arsames' bust l. (pl. 5, 3)
4. Arsames II. AE 16. 3.46g.; 11:00. A variant of Bedoukian 8, but with Arsames' bust l. and from the same obverse die as the last. (pl. 5, 4)

Again under Arsames II we find the indiscriminate use of obverse dies for both unit and half-unit. Considering the very small number of both obverse and reverse dies for this king, it can be assumed that his coins were struck in small numbers. This is born out by their rarity. It can be further assumed that production was limited to a single workshop, hence the opportunity for mixing up the dies. This rates not to be a serious mint error, however, as the coin's value would have been dictated by its reverse type. The great variation of weights for any single denomination underscores the token value (as opposed to the intrinsic value) of these coins.

¹ Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene*, American Numismatic Society *Museum Notes* 28 (1983), and later reprinted as Armenian Numismatic Society Special Publication no. 4 (1985). The essential material developed by Bedoukian was later incorporated by Y.T. Nercessian with minor changes in his *Armenian Coins and Their Values*, Los Angeles (1995).

² Martin Schottky, in Walter Eder and Johannes Renger, eds. *Chronologies of the Ancient World., Names, Dates and Dynasties*, Brill's New Pauly, Supplements I. Leiden-Boston. 2007, p. 96 where he subscribes to the theory that there was only one king named Arsames despite the different headdress for the two series. However, the portraits are enough alike to argue for one king whose change of crown may indicate a change of status. (See Kovacs, "Additions and Corrections II," in *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, vol. 4/3 p. 58, no. 196 and pl. 4, 9-10, for this phenomenon on the coins of Antiochus I of Commagene, when the earlier tiara is fez-like and the later a typical tiara ortho.) This comparison aside, the question of one or two kings named Arsames should be left open.

Also necessary for comment on this series is the surprising appearance of a left facing bust on 3 and 4 above. Much has been made of the possible significance for left versus right facing portraits, but considering the small number of dies for Arsames II in toto, and the single exception here (nos. 3 and 4 are from the same obverse die), it seems logical to conclude that this die represents an engraver's error which was simply used rather than discarded.

The following two reigns are not normally included in numismatic references, but they are nonetheless interesting for the possibility that identifiable Sophenean coins may eventually be identified for them.

Tigranes the Younger, 66 B.C.

For a very short time, perhaps only a month or two, Tigranes the Younger, son of Tigranes the Great, was made king of Sophene by Pompey, whose intention was to reconcile Tigranes the Great with his son, and to mollify the latter. However, the younger Tigranes felt slighted, and his belligerence and refusal to pay the excessive tribute demanded by Pompey resulted in his arrest and removal. The younger Tigranes was taken to Rome and held several years until 61 BC when he was featured in Pompey's triumph (Cassius Dio 37,6,2). Shortly after he died in an attempt to escape. No coins have yet been attributed to his short reign as king of Sophene.

Ariobarzanes I of Cappadocia, King of Sophene, 66-63 B.C.

Upon the removal of Tigranes the Younger Pompey gave Sophene to Ariobarzanes I of Cappadocia (95-63 B.C.). Although Ariobarzanes apparently struck no coins specifically for Sophene, his silver drachms of years 30, 31, and 32 represent the years Sophene was part of his domain. From the middle of year 30 until his death in year 32 his drachms bear the monogram of Aulus Gabinius, Pompey's lieutenant who was left in charge of the province.

5. AR drachm of year 30 (66/5 B.C.), 3.89g.; 12:00.

Obverse: Head of Ariobarzanes diademed, right.

Reverse: ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΡΙΟΒΑΡΖΑΝΟΥ ΦΙΛΟΠΩΜΑΙΟΥ (usually blundered).

Athena standing left holding Nike in right hand, spear and shield on her left;

ΓΑ monogram in inner left field; Α (= 30) in exergue. Simonetta p. 99, 59.³ (pl. 5, 5)

6. As last, but in exergue ΑΑ (= 31= 65/4 B.C.) 4.27g.; 12:00. Simonetta p. 100, 61. (pl. 5, 6)
7. As last, but in exergue ΒΑ (= 32= 64/3 B.C.) 4.00g.; 12:00. Simonetta p. 101, 62. (pl. 5, 7)

All coins illustrated are from the author's collection.

The author would greatly appreciate hearing about any coins of Sophene which are not included above, or in Bedoukian or in Nercessian ACV, for the purpose of expanding the corpus.

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frank@frankkovacs.com

³ Alberto M. Simonetta, "The Coinage of the Cappadocian Kings: A Revision and a Catalog of the Simonetta Collection," *Parthica* 9 (2007), Pisa-Rome (2008).

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